

**SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE BOMBAY
GOVERNMENT.**

No. XXIII.—NEW SERIES.

**SKETCHES OF THE NATIVE STATES UNDER THE
POLITICAL AGENCY IN THE REWA KANTA.**

PREPARED BY MAJOR R. WALLACE, POLITICAL AGENT.

**THE REWA KANTA TRIBUTARIES; AND THE FORTIFIED PLACES
IN THAT PROVINCE.**

**Report on the Hill-Fort of Powagur; Lists of the Towns and
Villages in the Rewa Kanta; their estimated Revenues, &c.**

**GEOLOGICAL AND STATISTICAL NOTES ON PORTIONS OF THE
REWA KANTA DISTRICTS, AND DESCRIPTION OF THE IRON
ORES OF THAT PROVINCE.**

BY THE LATE MAJOR G. FULLJAMES.

**HISTORICAL SKETCH, &c. OF THE PETTY STATE
OF BARIA.**

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**SETTLEMENT OF THE NAIKRA COUNTRY, EFFECTED IN THE
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MEMOIR ON THE RAJPEEPLA STATE.

BY MR. J. P. WILLOUGHBY.

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**Extracts from Reports by Major Wallace on the Panchmahal
Districts.**

COMPILED & EDITED BY R. HUGHES THOMAS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

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PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT,

IN 1815—1821

CONNECTED WITH THE DISPUTED SUCCESSION

TO THE

GADEE OF RAJPEEPLA;

INCLUSIVE OF THE REPORT (DATED THE 20TH FEBRUARY 1821), BY MR. J. P. WILLOUGHBY, FIRST ASSISTANT RESIDENT AT BARODA, OF HIS FINAL INVESTIGATION INTO THE RIVAL CLAIMS.

RAJPEEPLA.

BRIEF ANALYSIS, BY THE EDITOR, OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY ON THE SUBJECT OF THE DISPUTED SUCCESSION TO THE GADEE OF RAJPEEPLA, 1815 TO 1821.

Ajebsing, Raja of Rajpeepla, who, in the year 1786, had succeeded to the Gadee on the death of his father Ryesing, died in 1803, in the fifty-third year of his age, leaving two sons by different mothers, the eldest named Ramsing, and the youngest Narsing.

Ajebsing was succeeded by his eldest son, Ramsing, who had three wives, the youngest of whom, named Soorujkoor, was the daughter of Rana Jeetsing of Mandwa, and the reputed mother of Purtaub Sing, who subsequently laid claim to succeed to the Rajpeepla Gadee, in opposition to the claims of Narsing.

Raja Ramsing being addicted to an inordinate use of intoxicating drugs, he was reduced to a state of perfect imbecility of mind, and in consequence he became incapacitated for conducting the management of the Rajpeepla State. In February 1810 the Gaekwar Government vested Purtaub Sing with the authority of his reputed father, Ramsing, who dying on the 10th of May following, his brother Narsing advanced a claim to the Gadee of Rajpeepla.

In support of his claim, Narsing produced documents from many respectable residents of Rajpeepla, and from some of the neighbouring Chieftains of his caste, acknowledging him as the legitimate heir to that principality, and asserting that Purtaub Sing was not the son of the deceased Raja, but the offspring of a Rajpoot of the name of Rana Jyesing; and that he had been purchased by Soorujkoor (the youngest wife of Raja Ramsing) with the intention of imposing him upon her husband as her own child. On the other hand, Purtaub Sing's party asserted that Soorujkoor had really been delivered of a child at Mandwa, and that that child was Purtaub Sing, the claimant to the Gadee of Rajpeepla.

In 1815, Narsing and Purtaub Sing agreed to suspend the exercise of authority during the investigation by a Panchayet of their respective claims to the Gadee, leaving the Gaekwar to administer the affairs of Rajpeepla until their case should have been fully inquired into and decided. The repeated efforts of the Gaekwar Government to restore tranquillity, chiefly with the view of preserving its tributary rights, having been uniformly frustrated, the British Government determined to take upon itself the arbitration of the rival claims of Narsing and Purtaub Sing to the Rajpeepla Gadee.

It was originally proposed that the dispute regarding the succession to the Rajpeepla Chiefship should be referred to a Panchayet, to be composed of the Raja of Oodepoor and other Chiefs; but the unfair partiality shown by the Gaekwar to Purtaub Sing, and the influence which His Highness would naturally possess over a Panchayet, to be composed of his tributary Chieftains, rendered it very improbable that a fair and just inquiry and decision would by that means be ensured.

For these reasons, Mr. Williams, Resident at Baroda, on the 24th May 1819 recommended that he should be empowered by Government to proceed in the investigation of these rival claims, and report the result for the decision of Government. Mr. Williams stated that from inquiries he had already instituted, and from the documents which had been presented to him by Narsing in support of his claims, he was induced to view them in the most favourable light; that at different stages of the investigation he had called upon Purtaub Sing and his party to produce any evidence of which they might be in possession, in opposition to the proofs contained in those documents that Purtaub Sing was not the son of Ramsing the deceased Raja, but the offspring of a Rajpoot of the name of Rana Jyesing, but that with this call Purtaub Sing and his party had, under various pretences, evaded compliance, and in reply, had only produced a long historical statement of the disturbances in Rajpeepla; and while asserting that the wife of Ramsing had really been confined of a child at Mandwa, they brought no witnesses forward in substantiation of their statement, and evinced no anxiety for the prosecution of the investigation.

Mr. Williams accordingly warned Purtaub Sing and his party, that as Narsing had given in all the evidence he thought necessary for substantiating the legality of his title, he (Mr. Williams) expected that they would, without further evasion or delay, bring forward what they had to offer in refutation of his claim, and that otherwise he would consider their silence as an acknowledgment of the illegality of their pretensions. Mr. Williams was, on the 7th June 1819, authorised by Government to institute an inquiry into the claims of the two competitors to the government of Rajpeepla.

On the 18th May 1820, Mr. Williams forwarded copy of a letter from his

Assistant, Mr. J. P. Willoughby, dated the 21st March preceding, containing a summary of the principal evidence which had been produced by Narsing and Purtaub Sing in support of their respective claims. Mr. Williams observed, that the pretensions of Narsing were the better grounded of the two, but he considered it advisable, before any final decision should be passed, that Major Ballantine, Political Agent in Kattywar and the Mahee Kanta, should be deputed to Rajpeepla, to inquire still further into the disputed claim to the succession, and to investigate several particulars not yet satisfactorily established.

In reply, Mr. Norris, acting Resident at Baroda, was on the 9th June 1820 informed, that the inquiries remaining to be instituted previously to the final arbitration of the claim should be conducted by Mr. Willoughby, who had shown himself so competent to the duty. On the 26th November 1820, Mr. Norris reported, that in conformity with these instructions, Mr. Willoughby had on the preceding day proceeded to Rajpeepla, and he at the same time forwarded copy of the instructions with which he had furnished that officer for his guidance. On the 29th November 1820, Mr. Norris was directed to urge His Highness the Gaekwar to come to a speedy decision in this case on the receipt of Mr. Willoughby's report, should he (Mr. Norris) coincide with the views of that gentleman.

On the 5th March 1821, Mr. Norris submitted to Government a report from Mr. Willoughby, dated the 20th February preceding, containing the result of his further investigation into the rights of the rival claimants to the Gadee of Rajpeepla. After giving an outline of the principal evidence which had been elicited by Mr. Willoughby, Mr. Norris declared his conviction of the superiority of Narsing's claim over that of Purtaub Sing, and stated it to be his intention to urge His Highness the Gaekwar to agree to the recognition of Narsing's rights; but as Narsing was blind, and therefore incapacitated from reigning, to place his son Verisaljee on the Gadee of Rajpeepla.

On the 2nd May 1821, Mr. Norris reported that on the 18th of the preceding month he had waited upon the Gaekwar for the purpose of conferring with His Highness upon the question of the Rajpeepla succession, and that the Karbarees of Purtaub Sing and Narsing had been present at this interview; that after some discussion it was settled, at Mr. Norris's recommendation, that each party should prepare and produce a paper, within the period of five days, containing in detail their objections, if any, to the investigation which had taken place, the points on which they might desire further inquiry, and the manner in which they might wish such inquiry to be conducted. This fair proposal, though acceded to by both parties, was evaded by Purtaub Sing.

His Highness the Gaekwar, after much delay and discussion, finally decided that Narsing's claim to the Gadee of Rajpeepla had been established, but as that Chieftain, from his blindness, was incapacitated from reigning, his eldest

son, Verisaljee,* was invested with the sovereignty of that petty State, and was placed on the Gadee of Rajpeepla on the 15th November 1821. The following proclamation was at the same time issued, on the part of the British and Gaekwar Governments, to the inhabitants of the district of Rajpeepla :—

“The two Governments above mentioned proclaim, for the information of all persons, that the right of Maharana Verisaljee to the Chieftainship of Rajpeepla has been ascertained, and that he has accordingly been seated on the Gadee; all Zumindars, Patels, Putwarees, Banians, Rajpoots, Koonbees, Bhats, Bramins, &c. &c., high and low, of every caste, residing in Rajpeepla, are directed from this time forward to pursue their different occupations, and cultivate their lands in peace. Prior to this (time), whatever part any one may have taken in the past dispute, no molestation will now be in consequence offered to him, but all will be permitted to remain in peace who conduct themselves properly, and are obedient to the orders of Government.”

On the occasion of Verisaljee's recognition as Raja of Rajpeepla, he entered into the following engagement, promising to be entirely guided for the future by the advice of the British Government in all matters connected with the management, &c. of his Estate :—



“My representation is as follows :—I have received possession of my country from the Gaekwar Government, but I am certain that, without the aid of the British Government, I shall not be able to make its settlement. Therefore, I myself and my father, both of us, of our own desire, do agree to act, upon everything relating to the settlement of all the affairs of my country, in conformity with the advice of the Honorable Company. Whatever may be the desire of the Government, I will act according to it. In conformity with this Agreement, whoever may be Chieftain of the country, from generation to generation, he will act.

“Dated Sumvut 1878, Assavudee, *i. e.* reckoning from the month of Assar, Ashwin Shood the 15th (corresponding with October the 11th, A. D. 1821.)”



* The present Raja of Rajpeepla.

From Captain J. R. CARNAC, Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 15th December 1815.

SIR,— * * * * * Civil discord and its attendant calamities have almost annihilated the population of the Rajpeepla Country. Many inhabitants, who either through choice or necessity espoused the views of the contending parties, have fallen sacrifices in the cause. In the general confusion, neutrality afforded no security; on the contrary, it presented an easy prey to supply the wants, or more commonly to satiate the rapacity of those in arms. The Kolees and Bheels found a plausible pretext for committing the greatest enormities, and foreign mercenaries, composed of Arabs, Sindees, and Mukranees, were called in from the surrounding provinces. Under this state of affairs, in which every leader of a few soldiery assumed the powers of Government, it was impossible for the Ryuts to exist, and however good might have been the intentions of the Gaekwar Government in attempting a suppression of such disorders, it is feared that the less discerning hand of a Native Agent might, in the confusion, have unintentionally visited the innocent with the punishment due to the guilty. The evils which have ensued are incalculable; a fertile tract, yielding formerly, as is reported, under an efficient administration, an annual revenue of several lakhs of rupees, extending in length 60 kos, in breadth 60 kos, containing in all about 500 towns and villages, has now only fifteen of them inhabited.

This desolation, as might naturally be supposed, has proved favourable to the designs of all sorts of marauders, who find a rich spoil in the neighbouring districts of the Honorable Company, and a safe retreat in the wastes of Rajpeepla.

The repeated calls of the Gaekwar for a suppression of these evils have hitherto been disregarded by the authorities of Rajpeepla, and the inquiries into such neglect, which have been instituted by the officers of this Government, have developed the total inability of Purtaub Sing to redress or even to account for the grievances complained of. The mercenaries who were invited to aid the pretensions of Narsing, and those who were enlisted to maintain the authority of Purtaub Sing, had succeeded in acquiring such a controlling influence over their employers and the possession of their forts, as to render appeal to either of them nugatory. This state of circumstances, and the probable sacrifice of all the rights of the Gaekwar in Rajpeepla, demanded an immediate reform, to effect which indispensable object, Witooba Bhow, the Kanjee Dewan, was deputed with a force in the month of August last to that quarter.

Considering the absolute necessity of subduing a power, which not only the

testimony of Purtaub Sing's mother, but the correspondence by Witooba-Bhow prove to have been usurped, any steps productive of a change for the better would have been warrantable. The proceedings of that Minister, as detailed in the enclosed* translate of a Memorandum which he presented to me, were directed, however, to a peaceable attainment of the objects of his employment. As his Chieftain was to remove the parties from the thralldom of the Jumadars, so his first care was to accomplish his views without a recurrence to those measures which had already inflicted such deep distress on the inhabitants. The plea of giving weight to his acts by the authority of the reputed mother of Purtaub Sing was judiciously arranged and successfully executed, and though he was not left to conduct the negotiations himself to the desired issue, by his recal to the seat of Government from the news of the Shastree's assassination, they were nevertheless entrusted to the management of an intelligent servant, Ana Damother, who brought them to a termination.

The accompanying* documents, referring to the agreements entered into with Purtaub Sing and Narsing, with such as were stipulated by the Jumadars on their peaceable surrender of Rajjeepla to the Gaekwar troops, will elucidate, I trust, to the satisfaction of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, the propriety of the motives which dictated these engagements. The expediency of crushing the usurpation of the Jumadars and their troops was of primary importance, and since the troubles of the last four years were entirely attributed to the pretensions advanced by Narsing to the Gadee of Rajjeepla, in which it is said he is supported against Purtaub Sing by a large proportion of the subjects in that State, it becomes indispensably requisite to establish an investigation into their respective claims. Assertions of the spurious origin of Purtaub Sing, which the Kolee chieftains have adduced in extenuation of their support of Narsing's insurrections, have never yet been discussed, and their truth can only be determined by the arbitration of a respectable Punchayet, to whose decision the two competitors have voluntarily submitted their pretensions. The total incapacity evinced by Purtaub Sing to maintain his control, might authorise a discontinuance of our countenance; and should he fail to substantiate his priority of claim from birth to Narsing, he can surely no longer be entitled to our protection.

However much it is to be regretted that the avowed defect in Purtaub Sing could not be established on the death of Ramsing (the reputed father of Purtaub), a careful investigation is now found to be the sole alternative for reconciling the quarrels of the contending parties and restoring tranquillity to the country.

The period allowed for determining their rights is of sufficient duration to admit of that strict scrutiny which shall ensure an equitable decision. The

* The enclosures to this letter being voluminous, are omitted from this Selection.—*Editor.*

arrangements which Narsing and Purtaub Sing have concluded, to suspend the exercise of authority during that time, and their mutual stipulations that the Gaekwar shall administer the affairs of Rajpeepla until fully indemnified for the expenses incurred on account of that State, have been called for by the situation in which the Gaekwar was placed. The necessity will be obvious, when it is considered that, in addition to the unavoidable disbursements incurred by the late equipment under Witooba Bhow, amounting to Rs. 2,44,123-3-31, as set forth in the enclosure, there exists an outstanding balance of debts on the State hitherto under the Bhandaree of the Sebundee Jumadar of that Principality, aggregating against Rajpeepla no less than Rs. 9,00,623-3-31.

During the period likewise which will elapse to fulfil these engagements, every pains will be taken by the servants of the Gaekwar to apply a remedy to existing evils. No exertion will be spared to keep the country in tranquillity, and to restore it to prosperity. Under this arrangement, it will be impossible for the disorderly to find an asylum, as hitherto, in Rajpeepla, and the disaffected Koles and Bheels, from the public investigation of the claims of the competitors for the sovereignty of that State, will no longer find a plea for continuing their depredations. It is therefore to be hoped, that by the time the Gaekwar shall be indemnified for his extensive demands against the Principality of Rajpeepla, the country will be regenerated, and returned to its Prince in its primitive flourishing condition, to the permanent happiness of the inhabitants, and the security of the surrounding districts.

* * * * *

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC,
Resident.

Baroda, 15th December 1815.

FROM F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government,

To Captain J. R. CARNAC, Resident at Baroda.

Dated the 5th January 1816.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated 15th of last month, with its several enclosures, and to convey the approbation of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council of your proceedings respecting the settlement of the disputed succession to the Gadee of Rajpeepla.

2. The Collector of Broach has been instructed to deduct the amount of the pensions already paid and hereafter to be paid from the Tora Grass collections, according to the arrangement mentioned in the 12th paragraph of your despatch.

3. The Governor in Council desires that you will report the terms on which the exchange of Beejapoor is proposed to be arranged, and that you will also state the comparative value of the different districts included in that arrangement.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 5th January 1816.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda,
To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 24th May 1819.

SIR,—Captain Carnac, in his despatch of the 15th December 1815,* reported the occupation of the territory of Rajpeepla by the Gaekwar troops, and submitted, for the approval of Government, the arrangements that were then made for the better government of that country. These provided for the administration of the affairs of Rajpeepla by the Gaekwar until that Government had reimbursed itself for the expenses it had incurred in reducing the turbulent Sindians and Arab mercenaries, and bringing the country into a state of comparative order and tranquillity; and it was also further determined, that the competitors for the Government of Rajpeepla, Narsing and Purtaub Sing, should respectively agree to submit their pretensions to the decision of a respectable Punchayet, after the expiration of two years, which was considered a period of sufficient duration to admit of the requisite investigation being made into the claims of these rivals, and a suitable provision was made for their maintenance during the interval—that of Purtaub Sing, greatly exceeding the allowance made to Narsing, for what reason does not appear, although, from what I shall hereafter relate, some motive may be apparent for the inequality of the allowances. With regard to the original plan of submitting these claims to the decision of a respectable Punchayet, it would, if it were possible to form such a Court, composed of disinterested and unbiassed men, be highly desirable; but as this cannot be expected, from the cause of Purtaub Sing having been espoused by the mother of His Highness Syajee Rao, who has been induced to lend her support, through the intrigues of the Minister Witul Rao Bhow, whose motives for taking the part he has done, arising out of his connection with some of the creditors of the Rajpeepla State, and from the charges which the Gaekwar Government exhibit, as incidental to the employment of their troops, having been incurred under his direction, and from the knowledge which he possesses of Narsing

* Vide pages 393 to 395 of this Selection.

and his agents being prepared by their accounts, and local knowledge, to check many items of those charges, and also to show that many of the debts will on due investigation prove susceptible of great reduction; whereas, should Purtaub Sing's claim to the government be admitted, from the support which he has always received from that party, it is not likely that he will be forward with any plan that would tend to diminish their interested expectations. I would therefore recommend, that, under this state of circumstances, the British Government take upon themselves the arbitration of the claims of the rival competitors, and that I be empowered by Government to proceed in the investigation, and report my proceedings for the decision of the Right Honorable the Governor. From the inquiries which I have already instituted, and the documents which have been presented to me by Narsing in support of his claims, I am induced to view them in the most favourable light. These papers, copies and translates of which I have the honor to forward,* are from many respectable people of Rajpeepla, and other neighbouring Chieftains, &c. of their caste, acknowledging Narsing as the legitimate heir to that Government, and asserting that Purtaub Sing is not the son of Ramsing, the deceased Raja, but that he is the offspring of a Rajpoot of the name of Rana Jeysing, of the village of Suttu Saria; that his mother's name was Kurwiah, who died about six years ago; and that Purtaub Sing was born in Jeysing's house, in Sumvut 1858, corresponding with A. D. 1801-2. Rana Jeysing, who is stated to be father of Purtaub Sing, resides at Mandwa, near Chandore Kurnulee, and he writes, on the 14th February 1819, to Rana Narsing, that the widow of Ramsing, by name Soorujkoor, purchased his son, and that now the whole of his caste (to use the words of his letter) accuse him of having destroyed the Chieftainship to feed himself. I also forward a paper containing the deposition of the sister of Purtaub Sing, named Ramba, and married to Gohilpuchor Sing, a dependant of Narsing, a woman about thirty-two years of age; it was taken by one of my Moonshees, on the 28th ultimo, and gives a more detailed account of that transaction. I have at different stages of the investigation called upon Purtaub Sing and his party to produce any evidence that they may be in possession of, in opposition to the story related in these documents, but they have hitherto, under various excuses, evaded a compliance with my desire, and have only produced a long historical statement of the disturbances in Rajpeepla, which the report of Captain Carnac has put Government in possession of. They assert that the wife of Ramsing was brought to bed of a child at Mandwa, but bring no witnesses to prove it (I annex* a copy and translate of this paper), and have not shown any anxiety for the prosecution of the investigation. I have now considered it proper to warn them, that as Narsing has given in all the evidence that he thinks necessary to substantiate

* These papers being voluminous, are omitted from this Selection.—*Editor.*

the legality of his title, I expect that they will bring forward what they have to offer, in reply; if they do not, that I must consider their silence as tantamount to an acknowledgment of the illegality of their pretensions. My intentions now are, to procure as correct a statement as possible of the actual collections made in Rajpeepla by the Gaekwar Government during the time they have administered its affairs, and also an account of the heavy debts which are brought forward against that petty State, and I expect to be able, through the means of Narsing and his Ministers, to effect a considerable reduction in their amount, and I trust that I may at an early period be honored by the commands of Government on the subject of this despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS,
Acting Resident.

Baroda, 24th May 1819.

From J. HENDERSON, Esq., Acting Chief Secretary to Govt., Bombay.

To the ACTING RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 7th June 1819.

SIR,—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter of the 24th ultimo, with its several enclosures, on the affairs of Rajpeepla, I am directed to acquaint you, that the Right Honorable the Governor in Council has, under the circumstances which you have represented, acquiesced in your recommendation that the British Government should take upon itself the arbitration of the claims of Narsing and Purtaub Sing to the Government of Rajpeepla; and authorises you accordingly to undertake the investigation, reporting the result for the information and decision of the Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HENDERSON,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 7th June 1819.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Acting Resident, Baroda.

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated 18th May 1820.

SIR,—In reference to Mr. Secretary Henderson's letter to my address of the 7th of June last, I have the honour to forward, for the consideration of the Honorable the Governor in Council, copy of a letter from my Assistant, Mr. Willoughby, giving a summary of the principal evidence produced by Narsing

and Purtaub Sing, respectively, in support of their claims to the Chieftainship of Rajpeepla.

2. Although from this it cannot fail to be observed that the pretensions of Narsing are the better grounded of the two, yet I beg leave to recommend, that after the approaching monsoon, or the first convenient opportunity, Major Ballantine may be deputed to the spot, to inquire still further into the business, and investigate several particulars not yet so satisfactorily established as could be wished, before a final decision is passed on the point at issue.

3. I had the honour, in the month of May last, of forwarding, for the information of Government, copies of certain papers I had obtained at that period, from the parties concerned, and now forward other documents since given me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS,

Baroda Residency, 18th May 1820.

Acting Resident.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Acting Resident, Baroda.

Dated the 21st March 1820.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you, that in pursuance of your directions, I have carefully and minutely examined the evidence* produced both on the part of Narsing, as well as on that of Purtaub Sing, in support of their respective claims for the succession to the Chieftainship of Rajpeepla, the result of which, in examination, (as detailed hereafter) has not made me in any degree differ from the opinion expressed in your letter to Government dated the 24th of May last, in which you state “that from the inquiries you had at that time instituted, and from the documents which had been presented to you by Narsing, you were inclined to view his claims in the most favourable light.”

2. The evidence produced by both parties is, as might be expected, in some points not so satisfactory as could be wished, and in others contradictory, with this material difference, that in the evidence delivered by Purtaub Sing these points are much more numerous, and of much greater consequence, than those observable in that of Narsing; in proof of which, I may adduce one out of many examples as being the most glaring, the evidence of a most important witness, a female attendant upon Soorujkoor at the time she is stated to have been delivered of Purtaub Sing, which, from its importance, will be more particularly adverted to hereafter.

* The depositions, &c. alluded to in this letter, being voluminous, are omitted from this Selection.—*Editor.*

3. The question I conceive will be placed in the clearest point of view by answering the three following queries :—1st. Were Ramsing and Narsing brothers; and if so, which was the senior; and did Ramsing, in virtue of his seniority, ascend the Gadee upon the death of his father Ajebsing? 2nd. Was Soorujkoo the lawful wife of Ramsing; when was she married to him; and was she pregnant at the time she left her husband in confinement at Nandod to proceed to Mandwa to live with her father? 3rd. Is Purtaub Sing the son of Ramsing by his wife Soorujkoo; or does the evidence of his rival Narsing prove him to be the son of a Rajpoot of the name of Rana Jyesing, of the village of Sutte Sonvarish, sold, when a few days old, by his father to Soorujkoo, who attempted to impose upon her husband that he (Purtaub Sing) was her own child? When these questions are answered, from the evidence before us we shall be enabled the better to judge of the pretensions of both parties.

4. It may be proper to observe here that the evidence produced by Purtaub Sing consists principally in a long, confused historical detail of the quarrels and factions which have at various times occurred amongst the different members of the family of the Rajpeepla Chieftains, entirely foreign to the point at issue, and on that account may be considered as a presumptive proof of the badness of his cause, from his being compelled to resort to such a method of representing his claims.

5. It may be further remarked, that what little evidence he has since brought forward (after repeated warnings that the cause would be decided against him, provided he did not quickly produce better founded proofs of the justice of his pretensions,) must be considered as rather suspicious, from the length of time which elapsed before he did produce it, notwithstanding the commanding weight of influence which has been exerted in his behalf by some of the principal members of the Gaekwar Government.

6. The first of the three questions is in every respect answered by the evidence in the affirmative. The greater part of the witnesses on both sides agree that Ramsing and Narsing were brothers, and that they were the sons of Ajebsing, who died in Sumvut 1859 (corresponding with 1801-02 of the Christian era); and they likewise agree that when he died, he was succeeded, according to the ancient custom of the Rajpeepla Chieftains, in right of primogeniture, by his son Ramsing. (See the evidence in particular of Amankoorbaee, one of the widows of Ramsing; that of Dadjee Gungaram Purope and Gunesh Desaee, which is fully confirmed by the letter of Huttysing Chowra, and that of Meer Umeersing.)

7. In reply to the second question, it is necessary to state that Ramsing had three wives—1st, Amankoorbaee; 2nd, another, whose name I do not find mentioned, but only alluded to; and 3rd, Soorujkoo, the daughter of Rana

Jeetsing, of Mandwa, who it appears he married in consequence of the death of his second wife. With reference to the concluding part of the question, it is not asserted by any of the witnesses that Soorujkooor was with child at the time of her departure from Nandod, but it is positively asserted by Dadjee Gunga Purope, whose evidence is supported by that of four other witnesses, that she was not, as at that time she was not more than eleven or twelve years of age, and therefore too young to become a mother. This witness likewise adds that if Soorujkooor had been really pregnant, he must have known it, in consequence of certain ceremonies being always performed in the fifth month of pregnancy, and which no other Bramin but himself could have performed, he being the officiating Bramin of the family, and, as such, always residing in the house of Ramsing.

8. I have now come to the examination of the last, and most important question, and upon which rests the decision of the point at issue—"Is Purtaub Sing the son of Ramsing by his wife Soorujkooor, or does not the evidence of Narsing prove him to be the son of a Rajpoot of the name of Rana Jyesing, and sold by him to Soorujkooor when an infant, who bought it with the intention of imposing it upon her husband as her own child?"

9. The clearest and most equitable manner of replying to this question will be, to give a summary of the principal evidence brought forward by both parties in any degree bearing upon the question.

10. The evidence of Purtaub Sing may be divided into three heads, 1st, that of different Patels, Desaees, and other inhabitants of Rajpeepla and its neighbourhood; 2nd, that of Muttunabae, a female attendant of Soorujkooor at the time of her marriage with Ramsing, and at the time she is said to have been delivered of Purtaub Sing; and 3rd, that of Jyesing Rana.

11. With regard to the first head of the evidence, it cannot be considered as any decisive proof of Purtaub Sing's being *bonâ fide* the son of Ramsing, as nothing more can be found either in the depositions, or in the numerous letters sent to you from Rajpeepla, than evidence to prove the fact of a *report* arriving at Rajpeepla either in Sumvut 1857 or 1858, of Soorujkooor having been delivered of a son, who was called Purtaub Sing, and, upon the news arriving, that the usual ceremonies were performed. Not a single witness asserts that he knew, before the report arrived, that Soorujkooor was with child; indeed one of them, by name Narraen Patel, residing about five kos from Rajpeepla, deposes that he did not even hear of the report, till two months after her delivery. None of them likewise depose to the fact of their ever having heard Ramsing acknowledge the child as his own, but merely that they often saw the child in his arms, and that according to one account four days, but according to another four hours before his death, he (Ramsing) performed the ceremony of Teekar to Purtaub Sing, and placed him upon the Gadee.

12. Being led to inquire into the nature of the ceremony of Teekar,* I have learnt it to be “the marking of the forehead of a successor to the Musnud with a round spot of red paint.” If the successor is an adopted son, the mark is made by the person who adopts him; but if he succeeds by right of primogeniture, it is invariably made by the Gooroo or officiating Bramin of the family. How, therefore, are we to reconcile the statement of these witnesses, declaring that the ceremony was performed by the father himself, instead of Gunga Purope, the officiating Bramin of the family?

13. The evidence, therefore, found under the first head, unless supported by incontrovertible facts in the two remaining ones, will go but a very little way towards proving the justice of Purtaub Sing’s pretensions to the disputed Chieftainship.

14. The second division is the deposition of a female attendant of Soorujkoo, both at the period of her marriage with Ramsing and at the time of Purtaub Sing’s birth, which, short as it is, I consider well worthy of a distinct division to itself from the situation the deponent held. The substance of her deposition is as follows:—“That she is an attendant upon Soorujkoo, and was so at the time of her marriage with Ramsing at Mandwa, at which time Soorujkoo was about eleven years of age; that after her marriage, she remained two months at Mandwa, and then went with her husband to Naudod, where she remained four months, when she again returned to Mandwa, at which place, between three and four months afterwards, she was delivered of Purtaub Sing.” Thus far the evidence may be considered clear and consistent, and proves that Soorujkoo, at the time the deponent states she was delivered of Purtaub Sing, could not have been more than twelve years old; but then, having in the first instance given the age of Soorujkoo at the time of her marriage, and deposing that ten months after she was delivered of Purtaub Sing, she concludes her deposition (apparently to obviate the difficulty likely to arise, from the extreme youth of Soorujkoo rendering it improbable, if not impossible, for her to have become a mother) by stating that “at the time this event occurred, Soorujkoo was between fourteen and fifteen years of age.” This, I fear, must be considered a mistake of such consequence as to invalidate the greater and most material part of her evidence, which if granted, the only direct evidence (if it can be so termed, for it must be observed that the deponent does not say that she was present at the delivery of Soorujkoo, but merely “that Soorujkoo was delivered at Mandwa”) which Purtaub Sing has brought forward in support of his pretensions, must fall to the ground.

15. The third and last of the three divisions of the evidence of Purtaub Sing is the deposition of his supposed father Jyesing Rana, as follows:—

* Known likewise by the name of Teelah and Chandlah.

Commences by stating that "his daughter married a Rajpoot named Parsing, who, after his marriage, was employed by Narsing, by whose orders he sent for his wife to come and live with him at Baroda. Parsing, by his master's orders, attempted to make his wife declare that Purtaub Sing was her brother and my son, to which, through fear, she at last consented. Four or five months after this, the Patel of the village of Joparreea, by name Nurrotum, visited me, and offered me a bribe of Rs. 500 if I would publicly declare that Purtaub Sing was my son, and wished me either to accompany him to Baroda to acknowledge it to Narsing, or to give him a letter under my own handwriting, declaratory to that effect; but to neither of these propositions did I accede, upon which the Patel returned to Baroda." He then "positively asserts that the letter produced, with his signature affixed, acknowledging that Purtaub Sing is his son, is a gross forgery, and was neither written by him, nor with his consent." He concludes by stating that "the usual ceremonies were performed in the fifth month of pregnancy."

16. This deposition has certainly at first sight an appearance of truth and consistency, and provided the other party were not able to produce good evidence of its being in part or entirely false, and were they not able to prove not only that the wife of Parsing formerly declared that Purtaub Sing was her brother, and now voluntarily comes forward and asserts the same, but likewise that the letter was *bonâ fide* written by the free will and consent of Jyesing, and signed by him in the presence of three respectable witnesses, thereby convicting him of the worst species of perjury, would almost be sufficient fully to establish the legitimate right of Purtaub Sing to the contested Chieftainship.

17. The above essential and material points are all fully and most clearly controverted in the comparatively clear and circumstantial evidence adduced by Narsing in substantiation of his claims, which, for the sake of perspicuity, I will divide in the same manner as I have already divided the evidence of Purtaub Sing, into five different heads, as follows:—*1st*, the evidence given by the relations of Jyesing himself; *2nd*, that of Amankoorbaee, one of the widows of Ramsing; *3rd*, the evidence contained in a letter from Huttysing Chowra, now living in the Broach Purguna, in answer to a set of queries sent to him to reply to; *4th*, the evidence of Nurrotum Patel; and *lastly*, that of Dadjee Gungaram Purope, the officiating Bramin of the family of Ramsing.

18. The evidence comprised under the first head is that of Parsing, the son-in-law of Jyesing; of Rowba, the wife of Parsing, and daughter of Jyesing; of Kussool Sing, and Hammund Rana, nephews, and of Joon Rana, cousin of the same person; to all of whose evidence a degree of importance must be attached, from the opportunity their relationship to Jyesing gave them of knowing the facts at issue.

19. All these witnesses agree in deposing that Purtaub Sing is the son

of Jyesing; but that, when only a few days old, he (Purtaub Sing) was given to Soorujkoor, the wife of Ramsing. It appears, according to the testimony of Rowba, that the father of Soorujkoor, Rana Jeetsing, of Mandwa, when he heard of Purtaub Sing's birth, sent a message to Jyesing, and the mother of the infant, by name Karwanjee, requesting them to give him the child, that he might be adopted by his daughter Soorujkoor, at the same time promising in future to take care of them both, in earnest of which he (Jeetsing) visited them, and gave them Rs. 100 and 8 Koombas of land in Mandwa, which they enjoy to this day. Besides this remuneration, the same witness deposes that Jeetsing, when the Government came into the hands of her brother, presented dresses of cloths both to her father and mother, and at different times small pecuniary gifts of ten, twenty, and forty rupees at a time, and when her mother died, he gave Rs. 100 for the funeral expenses. The deponent likewise states that Jeetsing offered to give her Rs. 200, which she refused to accept, it being offered under a proviso that she should not go to live with her husband, fearing that, as he was residing in the house of Narsing, these circumstances would be made known.

20. The evidence of all these witnesses is particularly strong, especially that of the two former; the first, Parsing, deposing that he has not only heard his wife declare Purtaub Sing was her brother, but likewise her father and mother acknowledge the same fact; and the second, Rowba, in addition to the evidence I have detailed in the former paragraph, deposes that she was present with her mother to assist in her delivery.

21. The second head is the evidence contained in the deposition of Aman-koorbaee, one of the surviving widows of Ramsing, and, as such, her testimony must be considered as important. After deposing to the facts of Narsing being the brother, and Soorujkoor one of the wives of her late husband, she positively asserts that Purtaub Sing is the son of Jyesing Rana, which assertion she makes not only from knowing that the extreme youth of Soorujkoor rendered it impossible for her to become a mother, being only ten years old, but likewise from the declaration of Ramsing himself, who denied the child, and was so incensed with Soorujkoor at her attempt to impose upon him, that he did not recall her from Mandwa for four years, and when he did recall her, it was through the persuasion of his Ministers, Kishundas Bukshee and Merdeen Jumadar. She concludes by stating that Ramsing had told her that Purtaub Sing should never succeed him, at the same time adding that he had written a letter to Narsing to that effect.

22. As a presumptive proof of the truth of the last witness's statement, that the recall of Soorujkoor was effected by the influence of Ramsing's Ministers, it may be observed that they possessed at that time almost the whole authority and management of the affairs of the petty State of Rajpeepla; and as soon

as they had succeeded in obtaining the recall of Soorujkoor, they immediately placed Ramsing in confinement, and on his death, which happened soon after, placed Purtaub Sing upon the Gadee.

23. It may be further remarked, that before Soorujkoor returned from Mandwa, she solicited and obtained from Ramsing a guarantee for the safety of herself and child, which is a direct proof of their being previously, from some cause, on bad terms with each other. I, however, do not find amongst the papers before me any further mention of the letter. Amankoorbaee deposes that Ramsing informed her he had written to Narsing, which being of very considerable importance, ought to be further inquired into.

24. The evidence contained under the third head is to be found in a letter to you, from Huttysing Chowra, of Broach, replying to a series of questions proposed to him on the subject. In this, he writes that Purtaub Sing is notoriously the son of Jyesing, and gives a minute description of the quarrel which took place between Ramsing and Soorujkoor in consequence of the imposture.

25. The whole of the testimony contained in this letter is corroborated by ten others, written by persons living in the neighbourhood of Mandwa; and as the writer of the letter lived with Ramsing, he must be fully competent to speak to the facts he details.

26. Under this head, I may likewise mention a letter from the Raja of Mandwa to Narsing himself, dated the 13th January 1819, corroborated by letters from ten other persons, giving no new evidence, but adding to the strength of that already given to prove that Purtaub Sing is really the son of Jyesing Rana.

27. The fourth head is the evidence of Nurrotum Patel, the same person who is referred to in the 15th paragraph of this letter. He deposes that Jyesing Rana gave him a writing, under his own hand, acknowledging the fact that he had given his son Purtaub Sing to Soorujkoor, the wife of Ramsing, and requested he would deliver it to Narsing; at the same time expressing a wish that it should not be shown to any other person, from an apprehension of his character suffering from the act. He likewise further deposes that the letter was written by a Bramin now living in the village of Chanood, and that Rana Jyesing put his signature to the letter in his presence.

28. This is a most important fact, and upon its truth or falsehood rests the main decision of the question. If its truth is fully established, it clearly does away with all the weight and credit of the deposition of Jyesing, and proves him to be guilty of the grossest perjury; but if, on the contrary, its falsehood is made apparent, a most material part of the evidence produced in favour of Narsing becomes destroyed.

29. It will appear, however, that the fact of the letter being genuine, and

written by the orders of Ramsing himself, is already most strongly and satisfactorily supported by the testimony of other witnesses, and it only requires the evidence of the Bramin who actually wrote the letter (but who, it appears, has not yet been examined) to render it complete.

30. In the first place, the evidence is corroborated *in toto* by that of Varsing, a Patel; secondly, a Bramin of the Nagree caste, by name Umbreswer, deposes that he was present when Jyesing gave the order to Raja Ram, of the village of Chanood (the Bramin before alluded to), to write out the declaration, and he having previously read the letter to Jyesing, and explained its contents to him, he (Jyesing) affixed his signature to it in his presence, and sent it to Narsing, of his own free will and consent. Than this, I think, clearer evidence (provided it is confirmed by that of the Bramin who wrote the letter) cannot be required, to prove the fact of Purtaub Sing's being in reality the son of Jyesing, and, as such, he can have no claim whatever to the contested Chieftainship.

31. However, there is still another strong link of evidence in favour of the above conclusion in the fifth and last head of Narsing's evidence, viz. the deposition of Dadjee Purope, who (as has been before stated in the 7th paragraph) deposes that the Hindoo ceremony of Sutmasa was not performed in the fifth month of Soorujkoor's pregnancy.

32. The above deponent must be acquainted fully on this point, as being the officiating Bramin of Ramsing's family, and, as such, performing all the ceremonies customary amongst Hindoos, he must himself have performed the ceremony of Sutmasa, which is universally practised. This fact, unless it can be disproved by the opposite party, is certainly of some weight in coming to a decision upon the question.

33. I have now come to the conclusion of the summary of the principal points of the evidence as yet produced by both parties; and though some of the facts contained therein require a more minute investigation before a decision is made upon a case of so great an importance to the parties concerned, you will not, I think, fail to observe, after the perusal of this, and its enclosures, that as yet the claims of Narsing appear to be the most just and better founded of the two.

34. Before I conclude, it is necessary to observe, that amongst the evidence before me there are two letters, the one produced on Narsing's part, and the other on the part of his rival Purtaub Sing.

35. The first is contained in the depositions of Hureechunder Bhut, Monnee Sunker Josee, and Bapoo Raj Gurroo, Bramins, which set forth that Gunnobhaee, a Karkoon belonging to Wittoba Bhow, and Gunnessjee Desae, summoned them to attend at the Durbar, and forced them against their own consent to sign a paper, without acquainting them with its contents,

except that they were told it merely related to the arrival of Purtaub Sing at Rajpeepla. They, however, depose that on their subsequently hearing that the letter stated that Purtaub Sing was the son of Ramsing by Soorujkoor, they proceeded to Gunnessjee Desaee to request he would return them the letter, but the reply they received was that the letter had been sent to Baroda.

36. I thought it necessary to notice these depositions, considering them as proof of my remark in the 5th paragraph, of the intrigues carried on amongst some of the principal members of the Baroda Durbar in support of Purtaub Sing, who went so far as to request Captain Carnac to place the Bhandaree of the Honorable Company to a memorandum guaranteeing Purtaub Sing's rights to the Chieftainship, which, however, was refused.

37. The second letter alluded to is one from several Patels and Desaees residing in the district of Rajpeepla, stated to have been addressed to Narsing, with a counter statement by three of the persons, declaring that it was obtained by force, and that the word "false" had been inserted before Purtaub Sing's name.

38. The substance of this letter is not of much importance, the persons who signed it merely stating that they were ready to espouse his (Narsing's) cause, and that they had no pleasure in having anything to do with Purtaub Sing. It, however, requires a more particular investigation to ascertain its veracity or otherwise, from which some new light may be thrown upon the subject.

39. In conclusion, I must observe, in justice to both parties, that the witnesses not being examined by myself, I have had no means of discovering the credibility of their respective testimonies, which can only be discovered by ascertaining the character of the deponents, the manner in which they deliver their evidence, and by cross examination; and that, therefore, what I have advanced as my humble opinion on the merits of the case at issue must be considered in some degree incomplete, being collected from written evidence alone, and not, as it ought to be, combined with the oral testimony of disinterested persons.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Assistant Resident.

Baroda Residency, 21st March 1820.

From J. HENDERSON, Esq., Secretary to Government,

To C. NORRIS, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated 9th June 1820.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Williams' despatch,

dated the 18th ultimo, on the subject of the claims of Narsing and Purtaub Sing to the Chieftainship of Rajpeepla.

2. As Rajpeepla is not included among the Gaekwar tributaries in Kattywar or Mahee Kanta, where Major Ballantine is to be employed, the Honorable the Governor Council is desirous that the inquiries remaining to be instituted previously to the arbitration of the claims should be conducted by Mr. Willoughby, who has shown himself so competent to the duty.

3. I am directed to draw your attention to the 32nd to 37th paragraphs of the letter from the Court of Directors, dated the 1st of April 1818, communicated to the Resident on the 30th September following.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) J. HENDERSON,

Bombay Castle, 9th June 1820.

Secretary to Government.

From C. NORRIS, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated 16th June 1820.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Secretary Henderson's letter of the 9th instant, and to beg that you will inform the Honorable Board that Mr. Willoughby will be deputed to Rajpeepla, after the rains, for the purpose of prosecuting the inquiries remaining to be instituted relative to the claims of Narsing and Purtaub Sing to the Chieftainship.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. NORRIS,

Baroda Residency, 16th June 1820.

Acting Resident.

From C. NORRIS, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda,

To the Honorable M. ELPHINSTONE, Governor of Bombay, Surat.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated 26th November 1820.

HONORABLE SIR,—Mr. Secretary Henderson's letter of the 9th June last having conveyed the directions of Government that Mr. Willoughby should be sent, after the opening of the season, to Rajpeepla, for the purpose of investigating the question of Narsing's and Purtaub Sing's claims to the Gadee of that Principality, I have the honour to report Mr. Willoughby's departure, on the 25th instant, upon the abovementioned duty.

2. I beg leave to enclose, for the information and for the approval of Government, copy of the instructions furnished to Mr. Willoughby upon this occasion.

3. It was originally proposed that the dispute regarding the succession to the Rajpeepla Chieftainship should be referred to a Panchayet, to be composed of the Oodeepoor and other Chiefs, but the partiality shown by the Gaekwar to Purtaub Sing seemed to render it very improbable that a fair and just inquiry and decision would take place in this way, and the result of a similar proceeding relative to the Chieftainship of Morassa has shown the necessity of trying another mode of investigation.

4. Under these circumstances, the investigation reported to Government in Mr. Williams' letter of the 16th May 1820 was conducted by Mr. Willoughby, under Mr. Williams' directions.

5. His Highness the Gaekwar, when first informed of its being the wish of Government that Mr. Willoughby should proceed to Rajpeepla for the purpose of prosecuting the inquiry which had been so long in progress, betrayed at the moment an anxiety which is easily accounted for when the favour which Purtaub Sing has enjoyed at this Durbar is considered, as well as the influence which the Gaekwar would naturally possess over a Panchayet to be composed of his tributary Chieftains.

6. It is therefore creditable to Syajee's moderation, and to his regard for justice, that he has without any great hesitation consented to the investigation proceeding in the only way likely to lead to a fair and correct adjudication of the case, and upon the arrival of Mr. Willoughby's report, to pass, in concert with me, a final decision.

7. In the event, however, of Mr. Willoughby's inquiries establishing the fact of Narsing (or rather Narsing's son) having the preferable claim to the Gadee, it would be desirable that this final decision should be passed as speedily as possible, as Purtaub Sing has the favour of the Gaekwar, and will undoubtedly, if time be allowed him, endeavour, by fabricated stories, and by procuring false witnesses, to throw discredit upon the investigation, and instil doubts of its correctness and impartiality into the mind of His Highness, who, from his own inclination towards Purtaub Sing's cause, will be but too apt to give credit to his interested statements.

8. When the prize in view is so considerable, it is hardly to be expected that both of the individuals contending for it should be pleased with the award, but the chances of a just decision will be certainly greater by keeping in view the principles of a connected inquiry conducted by an impartial authority at Baroda and Rajpeepla, than by attending to the statements of an interested individual, addressed to a quarter decidedly biassed in his favour.

9. It would, therefore, I feel assured, be advantageous to the cause of

justice, that I should be empowered to urge His Highness to as speedy a decision as possible upon the merits of the case, after the receipt of Mr. Willoughby's report.

10. I take the liberty of soliciting your sanction of the allowances which I have proposed to be given to the Karkoons who accompany Mr. Willoughby, as mentioned in the 11th paragraph of my letter to that gentleman. They will not, I trust, be thought more than requisite, and they cannot, from the limited period during which they will be drawn, entail any considerable expense on Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. NORRIS, Acting Resident.

Baroda Residency, 26th November 1820.

From C. NORRIS, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda,

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident, Baroda.

Dated the 22nd November 1820.

SIR,—As it will be shortly necessary that you should proceed to Rajpeepla agreeably to the Government order, I have the honour to communicate such observations as appear to be necessary, relative to the object of your deputation, and to the means of carrying it into effect.

2. This object is to procure a full insight into the question of the disputed succession to the Gadee of Rajpeepla. The careful and correct review which you have already taken of the cases of the two individuals concerned, afford ample proof that the investigation will be conducted under your superintendence upon the justest principles, and with the utmost caution. The task will certainly be one of difficulty and delicacy, arising from the circumstances of the Government of Rajpeepla having been long entirely in the hands of the Gaekwar, and from the partiality of this Durbar to the cause of Purtaub Sing—considerations which must be expected to tend greatly towards preventing people in Rajpeepla from coming forward to give evidence in favour of Narsing.

3. I have the honour to enclose an order from this Government upon the manager of Rajpeepla, to afford you such assistance as you may call for in your inquiries, and this will at least prevent any but secret obstructions on his part.

4. The Karbarees of both parties have been instructed to accompany you, and to attend to your orders relative to the conduct of the investigation.

5. It will probably be found expedient to fix, in concert with the Karbarees, a time and place for the commencement of the inquiry. Such of the

witnesses as shall be found to attend according to the arrangement concluded with the Karbarees having been examined, you will be able to judge what further steps may be necessary.

6. If, as is very probable, there should be a difficulty in procuring the attendance of any of Narsing's witnesses, their evidence may be procured by your moving, without previous intimation of your intention, to the villages where they may reside, and by other measures of precaution, which will suggest themselves according to the exigency of the occasion.

7. The greatest circumspection will be of course necessary to keep from the knowledge of the parties the opinion which you may have of their respective cases, until the conclusion of the investigation.

8. When the inquiry shall be brought to a close, and you shall have been able to satisfy your mind as to the true heir to the Gadec, you will forward to me a report of your proceedings, accompanied by a statement, in Murathee, for the Durbar, of the principal features of the case, your opinion upon the subject, and the reasons which have influenced it.

9. I shall endeavour to prevail upon His Highness to come to as early a decision as possible after the receipt of your report, as in that case the exertion of indirect influence would be prevented to a considerable degree, and you would be enabled to place the individual whose claim shall be considered the most just, in possession of the government of the Principality, and to set on foot such inquiries and institute such regulations as experience has proved to be necessary. The debt owing by the State of Rajpcepla to the Gaekwar requires to be examined, and to be made payable by fixed instalments, and more efficient arrangements connected with the police and the peace of the country are wanted. These subjects, however, cannot be entered upon with effect until after the question of the succession is set at rest.

10. Colonel Osborne has been requested to order a party of eighty sepoy, under an European officer, to accompany you, and His Highness the Gaekwar has given directions for fifteen horse being placed at your disposal.

11. Wittoba Pillajee, a man of tried discretion and fidelity, will attend you as Head Karkoon. The nature of his situation, and of the particular occasion on which his services are required, will expose him to temptation, and with a view, therefore, to ensure his good conduct, I shall recommend him to Government to receive the liberal allowance of Rs. 130 per month, in addition to his pension, during his absence from Baroda. He will have under him Ramrow Purshotum, in the capacity of second Karkoon, and I shall recommend that this person may be allowed Rs. 80 per month, during the continuance of this duty.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. NORRIS,

Acting Resident.

Baroda Residency, 22nd November 1820.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. B. SIMSON, Esq., Secretary with the Governor,
To C. NORRIS, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda.

Dated 29th November 1820.

SIR,—I have been directed by the Honorable the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th instant, reporting that your First Assistant, Mr. Willoughby, had quitted Baroda for the purpose of investigating the respective claims of Narsing and Purtaub Sing to the Gadde of Rajpeepla, and forwarding a copy of your instructions to him on the occasion.

2. The Honorable the Governor approves of your proceedings; and as it is of importance to anticipate any intrigues on the part of Purtaub Sing, in the event of the inquiry being hostile to his claims, you are authorised to urge His Highness the Gaekwar to a speedy decision on the receipt of Mr. Willoughby's report, should you coincide with that gentleman in the view he may take of the merits of the case.

3. The allowances proposed to be given to the Karkoons accompanying Mr. Willoughby, are sanctioned.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. B. SIMSON,
Secretary with the Governor.

Surat, 29th November 1820.

From C. NORRIS, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda,
To J. B. SIMSON, Esq., Secretary with the Honorable the Governor.

Dated 5th March 1821.

SIR,—I have now the honour to report the continuation and conclusion of the investigation into the rights of the rival claimants, Narsing and Purtaub Sing, to the Gadde of Rajpeepla.

2. Mr. Willoughby's able report, to the enclosed copy of which, and of its enclosures, I beg leave to solicit the Honorable the Governor's particular attention, affords the most minute and satisfactory information upon the subject of his inquiries. Those inquiries comprise every point connected in the most remote degree with the subject of the dispute, and will be found to be continued until each was either fully proved or the reverse, or until further evidence was perfectly unattainable.

3. The field of inquiry which it became necessary for him to embrace has been very extensive, and this has been attended with the advantage of diminishing the probable injury to the cause of truth which might arise from the

misrepresentation of a single witness or from a single incorrect inference ; while the general result of the investigation may be relied upon with the greater confidence. With the view, however, of facilitating as much as possible the consideration of the question at issue, I shall proceed to lay before the Honorable the Governor as brief a statement as possible of the principal features of the subject of the dispute, and of the result of Mr. Willoughby's investigation with respect to them ; observing, at the same time, that the various collateral points of inquiry which have been discussed by that gentleman, are all of importance, and will be found to add, in a most material degree, to the convincing nature of the result.

4. Ajebsing, Raja of Rajpepla, died on 7th Poush Wud, Sumvut 1859 (A. D. 1803), leaving two sons by different mothers. The eldest son was named Ramsing, and the younger Narsing. The elder son succeeded his father on the Gadee. Ramsing's death took place on the 6th Wyshak Shood, Sumvut 1866 (10th May 1810). A boy of about nine years old, named Purtaub Sing, was at this time in his palace, and passed as the son of Ramsing, by his wife Soorujkoor, a daughter of Jeetsing, the Rana of Mandwa. Purtaub Sing is one of the claimants of the Rajpepla Chieftainship ; the other is Narsing, the younger brother of Ramsing, who declares that Purtaub Sing is not the son of Ramsing and Soorujkoor, but of Jyesing Rana and his wife Kurwajee, individuals of the Rajpoot caste, formerly inhabitants of Sutee Saoniah, a village in the neighbourhood of Mandwa.

5. The direct evidence on the part of Purtaub Sing is intended to establish the facts of Soorujkoor's being of such an age in Sumvut 1858 (A. D. 1802), the period of Purtaub Sing's birth, as to admit of her becoming a mother, and of her having actually been pregnant and having been delivered of a son in that year.

6. The principal witnesses on the side of Purtaub Sing, who depose to Soorujkoor's age, are the mother, aunt, and son of her father, the Rana of Mandwa. The two first say that she was fourteen or fifteen years old when she was married to Ramsing, the other that she was seventeen or eighteen. Considering the closeness of the relationship between Soorujkoor and these persons, it is very extraordinary that their statements should be at variance on a point apparently so unlikely to be a matter of uncertainty as the age of a daughter of the Rana of Mandwa.

7. The two witnesses next in importance are a concubine of Ajebsing, and a widow of Ramsing. They coincide in respect to Soorujkoor's age with the two witnesses first mentioned in the foregoing paragraph, but the first differs from the mother of the Rana of Mandwa, and from Soorujkoor herself, on a very important point, regarding which, among Hindoos, no diversity of

testimony need be looked for, viz. as to the period when Soorujkoor had arrived at womanhood.

8. The next witnesses are three female attendants in the family of the Rana of Mandwa, and three female relations to Bramins in the service of the Rana. I beg leave to refer the Honorable the Governor to the observations upon those depositions contained in the 7th and 8th paragraphs of Mr. Willoughby's report, and to those annexed to the depositions themselves. In addition to these observations, I have only to remark that these witnesses must be considered as entirely in the interest of the Rana of Mandwa, to whom the issue of this inquiry must be an object of the greatest solicitude, as ensuring his daughter's importance and his own in Rajpeepla, or the reverse. This remark applies also to the four following witnesses, whose depositions, however, are too inaccurate to inspire confidence, even if the individuals could be supposed to be unbiassed. It applies also to the five dependents of the Rana living in Mandwa, who give evidence principally from hearsay as to Soorujkoor's age. The remaining witnesses upon this part of the case give no additional or more satisfactory information. The statement of Soorujkoor herself is not of a nature to inspire confidence in this respect. Her answer to the tenth question, which is one of great importance, is at variance with the deposition of Mutubae, the concubine of Ajebsing, and the variation seems to me unaccountable, except upon the supposition of the deponents intending to support a falsehood, and not being sufficiently cautious to preserve the consistency of their statements. Her answer to the twenty-fourth question is remarkable. She admits to have received Bhandaree from Ramsing, but unquestionably misrepresents the particulars of the occurrence; she says that it was given when Barot Sing took Rajpeepla, and that it occasioned Huttysing's immediate dismissal from the service of Ramsing; but it will be seen from the 3rd paragraph of Mr. Willoughby's letter that Barot Sing took Rajpeepla in 1805 (Sumvut 1861), whereas Huttysing did not leave Ramsing's service till Sumvut 1864.

9. This is the whole of the evidence produced on the part of Purtaub Sing to prove Soorujkoor's age; and I confess it does not seem to me to be satisfactory. The astrological papers framed at her birth are not forthcoming, and strange and contradictory statements are made upon the subject of them; and the single document of this nature which is produced, is by no means satisfactorily proved to be genuine; and her father, the Rana of Mandwa, notwithstanding the entreaties of Purtaub Sing's party, the expostulations of Mr. Willoughby, and the order of the Gaekwar Government, declines giving his evidence on the point.

10. The facts of the pregnancy of Soorujkoor and her delivery, rest entirely upon the evidence of the abovementioned witnesses; and considering the

numerous variations in their depositions, the mystery which prevails regarding Soorujkoor's age, and the silence of the Rana of Mandwa, I cannot consider them to be by any means satisfactorily established.

11. As to the Panchmasa and Sutmasa ceremonies having been performed in the fifth and seventh months of Soorujkoor's pregnancy, real or pretended, this fact, if established, does not prove much; because, it would not only have been necessary for the support of the imposture that they should take place, but it was also necessary that the news of their having been performed should be circulated as much as possible. Whether the object was to save Ramsing's life, or to secure to the Rana of Mandwa, in case of Ramsing's death, a title to interfere in the affairs of Rajpcepla, it was essential in either case that Soorujkoor's pregnancy should be proclaimed.

12. The principal direct evidence on the part of Narsing to prove that Soorujkoor's age did not exceed twelve years when she left her husband in confinement at Nandod, and that her pregnancy and delivery were pretended, will be found to be contained in the depositions of an officiating Bramin in the family of Ramsing, a confidential servant of the Raja, five Mehtas of the Raja's, and two Bramins who were in the habit of frequenting his palace. All of them derive their knowledge of her age from personal observation, and from circumstances connected with their duty. I beg leave to refer for minute particulars to the depositions themselves, and to the remarks made upon them in paragraphs 28 to 32 of Mr. Willoughby's letter.

13. The evidence next in order, in point of importance, as to Soorujkoor's age, and the imposture which she is said to have practised, consists of eleven depositions of the Thakoor and other inhabitants of Shenor, a village in the very neighbourhood of Mandwa, and will be found to exhibit a fixed impression on the part of the deponents, derived from their knowledge of what passed in Mandwa in consequence of their proximity to that town, that Purtaub Sing is not the son of Soorujkoor.

14. Had Narsing's case closed here, although, considering the character of his principal witnesses, the very creditable manner in which they are represented by Mr. Willoughby to have delivered their evidence, and the absence of all apparent motive to attempt to prop up, without just cause, the sinking interests of Narsing against the overbearing influence of the Gaekwar Government and the Rana of Mandwa, for the purpose of degrading the son of their late master (for most of them were in Ramsing's service), I should be disposed to view his cause in the more favourable light of the two, still I should have perceived that it was defective, in not pointing out who Purtaub Sing was, and that it resembled in this respect those groundless imputations of spurious origin which are frequently thrown out against individuals of rank in this country, and asserted in so general a way as scarcely to be capable of satisfactory refutation.

15. The present case in this respect differs widely from those to which I have alluded.. From the very commencement of this dispute, Narsing's party has boldly asserted that Purtaub Sing was the son of Jyesing Rana, a Geerasia of Sutee Saoniah near Mandwa, and his wife Kurwanjee; his witnesses all depose to this fact; and he has at one time been supported in this assertion by the declaration of the Geerasia himself and the members of his family.

16. The members of Jyesing's family who depose to Purtaub Sing's being his son, are the son-in-law, the cousin, and two nephews of Jyesing. Their evidence on this point is direct and positive, and, as it is of the greatest importance, I prefer to point out the documents themselves to the attention of the Honorable the Governor, rather than to give a mere summary of their contents.

17. I have said that Jyesing himself had admitted that Purtaub Sing was his son. A letter was given in by Narsing to Mr. Williams, purporting to be from Jyesing himself, and to have been signed by him, in which he states this fact. Subsequently, however, Jyesing appeared before Mr. Williams, and deposed upon his oath that this letter was a forgery, and written without his knowledge and concurrence. Narsing, upon this, made known the persons by whose instrumentality the letter had been procured, and challenged inquiry. In prosecution of this object, Mr. Willoughby took the letter with him when he left Baroda, intending to examine the persons in whose presence it was written and the writer, and, if necessary, to confront them with Jyesing. It was just at this point of time, subsequently to Mr. Willoughby's having left Baroda and before he reached Chanod, that Jyesing died. There is no proof that he came unfairly by his death, but it is clear that, if either party gained by that event, it was likely to be Purtaub Sing. Jyesing might have retracted the evidence which he had given in Purtaub Sing's favour, whereas Narsing had nothing further to fear from him than what had already taken place. The lengthened and persevering investigation which was prosecuted by Mr. Willoughby upon the subject of the authenticity or otherwise of Jyesing's letter to Narsing, will be found detailed in paragraphs 42 to 53 of that gentleman's letter, and in the documents to which reference is made. It will be observed that Mr. Willoughby's opinion is in favour of the genuineness of the letter. My sentiments on the subject are the same. Jyesing's deposition, it is true, still remains as it was, but the attempt made by Purtaub Sing's Karbaree to invalidate this document before Mr. Willoughby, has been so clearly demonstrated to be fraudulent, that it seems reasonable to suspect that unfair means were resorted to, to procure Jyesing's deposition; and why should unfair means be used unless the deposition were false?

18. Having thus shortly stated the principal and direct evidence produced by the two parties, I proceed to that which has been sought out and collected

by Mr. Willoughby in furtherance of the cause of justice. This is of three descriptions : *1st*, the sentiments of persons of respectability in Rajpeepla relative to the principal events of Soorujkoo's life, comprising not merely the personal knowledge of the witnesses, but their opinions as derived from common report ; *2nd*, the impression of the Bheel Chiefs as to whether Narsing or Purtaub Sing ought to be their Raja ; and *3rd*, the evidence of persons of respectability to particular facts connected with the case, which were likely to come within their knowledge.

19. The depositions of the first of these classes are fifty-seven in number, and the generality of the deponents are decidedly in favour of Narsing's claim. Only one person ever heard of Soorujkoo's being pregnant when she made her escape from Nandod, and those who consider Narsing to be the lawful Raja greatly outnumber those who deliver their opinion in favour of his rival. A reference to the documents themselves, and to the 62nd to 70th paragraphs of Mr. Willoughby's letter, will prove the justice of these observations.

20. The votes of the Bheel Chiefs are in a still greater proportion in favour of Narsing, and may be considered of material weight and respectability in a question of this kind, relative to purity of descent.

21. The last description of evidence collected by Mr. Willoughby consists of the depositions of persons living close to the house in Nandod from whence Soorujkoo escaped to Mandwa ; of relations of the Raja Ramsing, and other inhabitants of the village of Nowapoor, in the Nandod Purguna ; of domestics in the service of Ajebsing ; of inhabitants of the village of Kunota ; and of a Jumadar in Narsing's service. These are all found to support Narsing's cause, some by stating that they never heard of Soorujkoo's pregnancy previously to her leaving Nandod, others by declaring their conviction that it was an imposture ; others by stating the strong suspicions which prevailed at the time upon the subject ; others by detailing the way in which the intelligence of Soorujkoo's delivery was received by Ajebsing, his deputing a messenger to ascertain the truth, and the information brought by the messenger that the son of Jyesing Rana had been adopted by Soorujkoo ; and others, by proving the existence of a distrust between Soorujkoo and her husband, which she denies, but which Narsing attributes to Ramsing's unwillingness to accede to her wishes of continuing to countenance the imposture which had been practised.

22. The above is a very rapid outline of the principal evidence on the leading points in the question of the Rajpeepla succession, and I have no hesitation in declaring my conviction of the superiority of Narsing's cause over that of his rival. If Narsing's case be bad, and supported by false witnesses, then have numbers of men committed perjury for the purpose of injuring and offending the powerful party, and a whole people, as it were, has entered into a conspiracy to defraud an individual of his just rights.

23. With reference to paragraph 76 of Mr. Willoughby's letter, I have the honour to enclose translation of the letter of Huttysing Chowra.

24. Upon the subject of the collateral points of inquiry, my sentiments, after a careful consideration of the evidence adduced upon each, are as follow : *1st.*—That Soorujkoor did not return from Mandwa to Nandod, after the seizure of Salum Jumadar, at the same time that Ramsing did, and that when she did return to him, she received the Bhandaree of Abdoola Jumadar. *2nd.*—That Ramsing treated Purtaub Sing generally as his son, but on various occasions testified a conviction that he was not related to him in the most remote degree. The reasons alleged for his general conduct, supposing him to be acquainted with the imposture, seem to me to be satisfactory, considering that he was on bad terms with Narsing, his nearest relative, and that the cheat was not practised by Soorujkoor upon him, but by him and Soorujkoor upon the world. *3rd.*—That the conduct of Narsing, with respect to the procuring of the letters from the Zamindars of Rajpeepla in his favour, was infinitely more proper than that of his rival, when he had the same object in view. *4th.*—That the agreement stated to have been concluded between Narsing and Purtaub Sing, while the Bhow was in Rajpeepla, was a fabrication. *5th.*—That the fact of Narsing having received from Ramsing, shortly before his death, a letter confessing that Purtaub Sing was not his son, has not been established.

25. In conformity to the instructions contained in your letter of 29th November last, it is my intention to send in to the Durbar a statement of the particulars of the investigation, and to urge His Highness the Gaekwar to decide upon and make known, as speedily as possible, the accession of Narsing's eldest son to the Gadee of Rajpeepla.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. NORRIS,

Acting Resident.

Baroda Residency, 5th March 1821.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident at Baroda,

To C. NORRIS, Esq., Acting Resident, Baroda.

Dated the 20th February 1821.

SIR,—I have now the honour to report my proceedings in Rajpeepla, connected with the investigation of the respective claims of Narsing and Purtaub Sing, the two candidates for the Chieftainship of the country.

2. Before I proceed to remark upon the voluminous and rather confused mass of evidence* before me, I will briefly state the leading features of the case,

* The depositions forwarded by Mr. Willoughby with this report being very voluminous, are omitted from this Selection. Their substance is embodied in the report.—*Editor.*

conceiving that such may render the subsequent part of my letter more clear and intelligible, and explain points which might otherwise appear ambiguous and doubtful.

3. The case is as follows :—Ajebsing, the son of Ryesing, succeeded to the sovereignty of Rajpeepla upon the death of his father, which occurred in Sumvut 1842, or A. D. 1786, at which time he (Ajebsing) was about thirty-five years old. The Raja had three wives; the senior, by name Chunderbaee, died before her husband ascended the Gadee, leaving a daughter, by name Tukketkoo; the second, by name Jeejeebaee, died four or five years after he had been seated on the Gadee, leaving issue two sons, the eldest of whom was named Mahdeo Sing and the youngest Ramsing. The third, by name Ruttonkoo, survived her husband, and by her he had issue two sons and two daughters. The eldest of the former was named Abbhye Sing, and died a short time before his father Ajebsing; the youngest, named Narsing, is one of the present claimants to the succession. The eldest daughter was named Gomankoo, and married the Raja of Durrumpoor; she is still living, but her husband is dead. The second daughter, by name Bajeebaee, married Ryesing, Raja of Oodepoor, but both are now dead. Ramsing quarrelling with his father about his allowances, which the latter refused to increase, retired to Mandwa, in the month of Chytur, Sumvut 1855, or A. D. 1799. Having there entertained some Seebundy in his service, he returned to Nandod in hostility against his father, Ajebsing. The latter, upon hearing of the circumstance, sent Gomansing Wassidia against his son, and this person having failed in an attempt to settle the difference by negotiation, fought and defeated Ramsing, who again retired to Mandwa. It was on this occasion that Ramsing espoused Soorujkoo, the daughter of Jeytsing, Rana of Mandwa. A few months after Ramsing's marriage the difference existing between him and his father was made up, and the latter having increased his (Ramsing's) former allowances, and given him the Bhandaree of Jumadar Abdullah bin Omer, the former returned to Nandod and took up his abode in the house of a person by name Dair Shunker. Soorujkoo did not proceed in company with her husband to Nandod, but joined him a short time after. A few months after Ramsing's return, his father placed him in confinement in the house of a person by name Hurreebhye Jukwaree. The cause of Ajebsing resorting to such a measure, was the discovery he had made of a secret correspondence his son was carrying on with Oomed Wussawa, a refractory Bheel Chief residing in the Sakhibana Purguna, which had for its object the taking of Ajebsing's life, and the obtaining possession of his dominions. Immediately upon Ramsing's being placed in confinement, his wife Soorujkoo escaped in disguise to her father at Mandwa, a place distant from Nandod about six kos, on the northern bank of the Nerbudda. Ramsing remained confined in Nandod five or six months, after

which he was removed to Rajpeepla, and confined in the fort at that place. A few months after Soorujkoor's return to Mandwa, a report was circulated that she had been brought to bed of a son, who was named Purtaub Sing, and who is now Narsing's rival candidate for the succession. Many of the usual ceremonies were observed on the occasion of Purtaub Sing's birth, but the opposite party assert it was a trick played by Soorujkoor, with a view of saving her husband's life, and that Purtaub Sing is the child of another person, procured for that purpose. Ajebsing died Poush Wud the 7th, Sumvut 1859, or A. D. 1803, upon which Ramsing was released from his irons, by an Arab Jumadar of the name of Salum, and by him placed on the vacant Gadee, to which he had a legitimate right. Narsing, who had been up to this date living with his father, retired to Mandwa from fear of Ramsing. These fears were evidently not groundless, as, soon after Ramsing had regained his liberty, he placed in confinement Ruttonkoor and Chunderkoor, the former the mother and the latter the aunt of Narsing, at the same time depriving Narsing of the provision he had enjoyed during the lifetime of his father. It appears that Salum Jumadar, from the circumstance of having been the chief instrument in releasing Ramsing and placing him on the Gadee, acquired such authority as to be *bonâ fide* the Raja in every respect but name. Ramsing naturally felt this irksome, and determined to throw off the yoke. Salum's great power would not admit of his being seized at Rajpeepla, and therefore, having in concert with his (Ramsing's) father-in-law decoyed the Jumadar to Mandwa, he there seized and dismissed him. Neither Soorujkoor nor Purtaub Sing returned to Ramsing immediately upon his accession to the rule of the country, but, according to her own account, and that of some of the other witnesses, she herself and the child returned with Ramsing when he returned to Rajpeepla after seizing Salum Jumadar; but according to the statement of the generality of the witnesses, she did not return on that occasion, and it is on this account that I have so particularly noticed this event. In the year 1805, Baroot Sing, the brother of Ryesing, Raja of Oodepoor the Less, and who had been Karbaree to the Rajpeepla Government in the time of Ajebsing, having collected with the assistance of his brother a force, invaded Rajpeepla with the avowed object of effecting the release of Ruttonkoor and Chunderkoor, with whom he was intimately connected, not only from his having been Karbaree, but, as I have before stated, from his brother having married the daughter of Ruttonkoor. It is unnecessary here to make any observation upon the consequences of this invasion, or of the nature of the interference the Gaekwar Government made on the occasion, as these points have already been detailed at length in Colonel Walker's despatches to the Bombay Government. As Myral Narrain, however, is a person whose name will be hereafter alluded to, it is necessary to state

that it was on this occasion he first became connected with the country, by becoming security, on the part of the Rajpeepla Government, for the due performance of the stipulations it contracted with the Gaekwar Government on that occasion. Nothing occurred worthy of remark from the years 1805 to 1810, when the Gaekwar Government invested Purtaub Sing (at that time only eight years old) with the sovereignty of Rajpeepla, in consequence of his father having, from his intemperate habits, become incapable of discharging the duties of his situation. A Sunnud was drawn out by the Gaekwar Government placing Purtaub Sing in authority, dated Mahj Wud the 8th, Sumvut 1866, or the 26th February 1810. These proceedings were reported to the Bombay Government by Captain Carnac, and his letter conveyed a request, on the part of the Gaekwar Government, that the Company's Bhandaree might be affixed to the Sunnud granted to Purtaub Sing. Although the Bombay Government sanctioned the above proceeding, and agreed under certain stipulations to grant the Bhandaree requested, and thus formally acknowledged Purtaub Sing's title to the Chieftainship of the country, yet it does not appear that it ever was actually affixed to the Sunnud in question. This was in all probability prevented by the death of Ramsing, which event occurred on the 6th of Wyshak Shood, Sumvut 1866, or the 10th May 1810. During the whole of Ramsing's reign, Soorujkoor and the boy Purtaub Sing lived with him, and his conduct towards the latter was in many respects like that of a parent towards a child, although he is said sometimes to have made allusions to his being the child of another person, and is stated by the opposite party to have written a letter to Narsing, a short time before his death, requesting him to come and take charge of the Government, and acknowledging that the boy was not his own child. Upon the death of Ramsing, Purtaub Sing was placed on the Gadee by the Karbarees, the principal of whom were Myral Narrain and Kishundass Bukshee. The Gaekwar Government sent a Pugree and Shela on the day of his instalment, but no present was made on the part of the Company. Soon after this, Narsing, who at the time of Ramsing's death was living in Oodepoor, set up his claim to the succession, on the grounds of Purtaub Sing's being false; and having failed in an attempt to convince the Gaekwar Government that he was the legitimate Chieftain of the country, he commenced plundering and making those disturbances which have caused so much misery and distress in the country. He received a letter, towards the latter end of the year 1811, from Captain Carnac, giving to him the Company's Bhandaree, and requesting him to send his Karbaree to Baroda, to settle his dispute. No settlement, however, was at that time made, and the disturbances went on without cessation till the year 1869 (A. D. 1813) in the month of Falgoon Shood. At that time Myral Narrain invited Narsing to Nandod, and made a temporary settlement with him, which, however, only lasted for five or six months. It was on

this occasion that Narsing obtained the letter* from certain Zumindars and other inhabitants of the Nandod Purguna, which the opposite party assert was obtained by force, and regarding which I shall hereafter have occasion to offer a few remarks. Narsing having obtained the letter in question, retired again to the hills, and recommenced his depredations in Rajpeepla. Another attempt was, however, subsequently made by Myral Narrain to make a settlement with him, which failed. Then followed the mission of the Bhow to Rajpeepla with a large Gaekwar force, which, as is well known, ended in the arrangement† that both parties should submit their respective claims to the decision of a Punchayet, which was to be made in the course of two years, and the occupation and management of the country during that period by the Gaekwar Government. During the time the Bhow was in Rajpeepla, he received letters purporting to be from Narsing and Purtaub Sing, informing him that they had made up the differences existing between them. Letters to the same effect were likewise received by His Highness Futteh Sing Gaekwar, and by Captain Carnac, and requesting that their differences being adjusted, the Gaekwar troops might be in consequence withdrawn. These letters are of consequence, as, if genuine, Narsing in them acknowledges that Purtaub Sing is his nephew. Narsing, however, now denies that they were ever written either with his knowledge or consent. No decision being likely to be made by a Punchayet, Mr. Williams recommended‡ that the claims of the respective parties should be arbitrated by the British Government, which was agreed to. It is necessary to observe that Narsing has produced a letter, purporting to be from Jyasing Rana, a Geerasesa of the village of Sutee Saoniah, acknowledging that Purtaub Sing was his (Jyasing's) son, and that he was purchased from him by Soorujkoor. Narsing is at present about 41 years of age, and has had five wives, one of whom only is now alive. By one of his deceased wives, by name Gomankoor, he has issue two sons, who are both at present living in Oodepoor. The eldest, by name Verisaljee, is now thirteen years old, the youngest named Jeitsing, is only seven years of age. Narsing became blind from the small-pox in Sumvut 1859, or A. D. 1803. This misfortune legally incapacitates him from sitting on the Gadec, and in case therefore he satisfactorily proves his superior claims over that of his rival, the succession will devolve upon his eldest son, Verisaljee. Purtaub Sing is now about 19, and has two wives; by one of whom he has a daughter.

4. Such is a general outline of the case, and, in consequence, my attention has been principally directed to ascertaining the ten following points:—

* Vide para. 37 of my former letter, dated 21st March last. (Page 407 of this Selection.)

† Vide Captain Carnac's letter to the Bombay Government, dated 15th December 1815. (Page 393 of this Selection.)

‡ Vide his letter, dated 24th May 1819. (Page 397 of this Selection.)

1st.—The particulars of Soorujkoo's marriage, her age at the time, how long after its celebration she was delivered of a child, and whether the usual ceremonies observed in a Rajpoot woman's pregnancy were observed or not in her case. 2nd.—The general feeling of the country at the time the event is said to have occurred, and whether it was known that she was in a state of pregnancy at the time she left her husband in confinement in Nandod. 3rd.—How long after Ramsing had been seated on the Gadee did Soorujkoo return to him; why did she not return immediately after that event; whether on her return she demanded Bhandaree, and if she did, on what account did she consider such necessary; and whether she returned in company with Ramsing after the latter had seized and dismissed Salum Jumadar, or subsequent to that event. 4th.—As Ramsing conducted himself towards Purtaub Sing in many respects as if he had been his own child, to investigate whether there were any circumstances existing which might account for such conduct, on the supposition that the child was not his own but that of another person. 5th.—To ascertain whether Ramsing really wrote the letter Narsing asserts he did, a short time before his death, directing him to come and take charge of the Government, and informing him that Purtaub Sing was not his son. 6th.—To ascertain the particulars of the letter given to Narsing in November 1813 by certain Zumindars, &c. residing in the Nandod Purguna, whether it was given willingly or extorted by force. 7th.—To inquire into the particulars of the letters received by Captain Carnac, His Highness Futteh Sing Rao Gaekwar, and the Bhow, stating that the differences between Narsing and Purtaub Sing were accommodated, and in which the former styles himself uncle to the latter. 8th.—To ascertain whether the letter produced by Narsing, purporting to be from Jyasing Rana, is genuine or a forgery. 9th.—To ascertain whether the ten letters to Mr. Williams, from certain inhabitants of Rajpeepla, in favour of Purtaub Sing's claims, are genuine, and whether they were written with the free will and consent of those whose signatures are affixed. 10th.—And lastly, to ascertain the popular feeling of the country as to which of the two competitors is the legitimate Chieftain of Rajpeepla.

5. The evidence before me has been principally taken with the view of elucidating the above particulars; and, for the sake of reference, I shall now divide it into eight different enclosures, marked A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H. Before I proceed to remark upon these in order, it is necessary shortly to state the manner in which the investigation has been conducted. At the different places I have visited, I first examined the witnesses produced by the parties themselves, and then such other respectable inhabitants that remained, whose vicinity to the capital of the country, or some other circumstance, I thought likely to enable them to throw some light, however trifling, on the subject. All the witnesses had an oath administered to them according to

their faith, with the exception of those enumerated in the 7th enclosure (marked G), and were examined separately. Their depositions were taken down in Murathee by a Moonshee, and in English by myself, the two thus forming a check to each other against the incorrectness of either. I am not aware that there is any essential difference between them, and, allowing for the difference in the two idioms, they are in substance the same. The Karbarees were present when their respective witnesses were sworn, but retired when their examination commenced. They did not request to be present, and I did not deem it necessary, therefore, to give them advice to that effect, considering that their presence might deter some of the witnesses from speaking the truth, and might in some cases prevent the discovery of false witnesses. I have not shown to either party the testimony produced against them, conceiving that such would have opened an endless field to the suborning of false witnesses, and have thus protracted the inquiry to an indefinite and unnecessary length of time. When, however, any particular fact arose from one party bearing very strong against the other, I informed the latter of it, directing them to produce any evidence they might be able, to contradict it, or diminish its force. This may be considered as having given them nearly the same advantages as they would have derived from a perusal of the depositions, without affording them the opportunity of procuring false witnesses, with the facility they otherwise would have had, to depose to particular facts and circumstances in opposition to their opponents. I have likewise furnished each party with a list of the witnesses produced against them, in order to give them the opportunity of stating any circumstances which may have come to their knowledge regarding the situation, circumstances, or character of any of the deponents likely to impeach the credibility of their testimony.

6. Enclosure marked A consists of the depositions, forty-one in number, and marked accordingly, of the witnesses produced by Warnasee, the Karbaree of Purtaub Sing, to substantiate his master's claims to the succession: of these eleven are females, and the remainder males. The ten first depositions are those of Omedkoorbaee the mother, and Ujoobaee the aunt of Jeytsing, Rana of Mandwa; of three female attendants in the Rana's family; of Meetabae, formerly a concubine of Ajebsing's; of Omedkoorbaee, one of the surviving widows of Ramsing; and of three female relatives to certain Bramins in the service of the Rana of Mandwa.

7. The testimony given by the above persons, notwithstanding they mostly come from the same house, and pretend to have been eye-witnesses of the same facts, differs very essentially, and their depositions are filled with contradictions and misstatements of the most glaring description. They coincide in stating that Ramsing came to Mandwa and married Soorujkoo, that he remained there for five or six months after his marriage, and then returned to Nandod,

whither his wife soon followed him; that a few months after their return Ramsing was placed in confinement by Ajebsing, upon which Soorujkoo, accompanied by several other persons, escaped to Mandwa. They all affirm she was in a state of pregnancy at that time, and, according to some, that she was advanced three, and to others five months with child. They all assert that the Panchmasa and Sutmasa ceremonies were observed in the fifth and seventh months of her pregnancy, and that the usual ceremonies of distributing sugar, &c. &c., when she was delivered of Purtaub Sing, were observed, and information sent to Ramsing and others of the event. Some of them state that they were present both at the performance of the ceremonies above alluded to and at her delivery. They state that Ramsing ascended the Gadee upon the death of Ajebsing, and that, four months after he had ascended it, he went to Mandwa and seized Salum Jumadar, and, with the exception of two, they agree in stating that Soorujkoo and Purtaub Sing returned with him to Rajpeepla. Not one of them was able to state the time of Soorujkoo's birth, but stated she was 14 or 15 when she was married; asserting that they know this, some of them from living in the same house, and others from hearsay. Such are the particulars in which they agree, and it now remains to point out a few of the most essential points in which their testimony is contradictory, and the principal falsehoods each has been guilty of telling.

8.. The chief disagreement is in the number as well as the exact persons who accompanied Soorujkoo in her escape to Mandwa. Soorujkoo states she was only accompanied by two slave girls, the one named Nathee, who is dead, and the other by name Luckmee, who is alive, and a Rajpoot who is now likewise dead. Her statement in this respect is the one which in all probability is the correct one, and those who differ with her, in stating they themselves accompanied her, are guilty of a gross falsehood, and those who state others though not themselves were with her, are at least guilty of a great inaccuracy in saying so. Her grandmother asserts a Rajpoot woman by name Guloo-bae, as well as Meetabae and her daughter, accompanied her, and in the cross-examination, considering, I conclude, that she had not made out a good case, adds that she herself went with her, which is directly contradicted by many of the other witnesses. I do not consider the evidence of this woman entitled to the least credit whatever, as, independent of the testimony of other witnesses being against her, she herself declares that she remained with Ramsing the whole time of his confinement in Mandwa, in the very face of her assertion that she accompanied Soorujkoo, who left him at the very commencement of his imprisonment. In the next place she affirms, in contradiction to everybody else, that the priests or household Bramins of Ramsing were present at the performance of the Panchmasa and Sutmasa ceremonies, triumphantly asserting, when narrowly questioned on the subject, that she knows such was

the case, as their presence was indispensably necessary to their due performance. This may be considered as some evidence that they were not regularly celebrated. I was for some time at a loss what to make of her assertion that Purtaub Sing received presents from the Company on his being seated on the Gadee; this, however, was explained by the next witness stating that they were made by a "Gentleman who came with a wheel or perambulator," which proves they must have alluded to the presents made to Purtaub Sing by the late Surveyor General on his visiting Rajpeepla in the year 1811, which transaction was noticed by Government at the time of its occurrence. To proceed,—Meetabae denies that she accompanied Soorujkoo, but adds the name of another person who did so, by name Bheema. The deponents Guloobae and Bhnajee both assert that they were of the party who escaped to Mandwa with Soorujkoo; and how is it possible that such statements should be made by those advocating the cause of truth? Meetabae states that she is positive Soorujkoo did not demand Bhandaree from her husband upon returning to him, a fact acknowledged by Soorujkoo herself. Ujoobae states that Ramsing and Soorujkoo remained in the fort of Rajpeepla, and not in Nandod, prior to the former's confinement; and adds that she returned to her husband four or five months after leaving him, which does not even give time for Purtaub Sing's birth, and much less for his arriving at the age of a year or a year and a half, the time that he was first taken to Rajpeepla. The direct falsehood the woman Samba has made, as remarked in my note at the end of her deposition, deprives her testimony of any force it might otherwise be deemed worthy of. The statement of Omedkoo, that Soorujkoo and Purtaub Sing returned to Ramsing two months after his ascending the Gadee, and that Salum Jumadar was the person whose Bhandaree was given to her, is too ridiculous to be remarked upon. The woman Shanibooerbace is guilty of two falsehoods, the one in stating that Purtaub Sing was born one year after Soorujkoo's marriage, and the other in stating that she did not demand Bhandaree on returning to Ramsing. The two last witnesses are guilty of the same falsehood, in stating that they saw Soorujkoo pass through Nandod with Ramsing on his return from seizing Salum Jumadar, which is in contradiction to Soorujkoo's own statement, who, although she asserts she returned to Rajpeepla with her husband on that occasion, yet adds that they proceeded by different routes, the Raja by that of Nandod and herself by that of Kunote.

9. Such are the numerous and important falsehoods and contradictions observable in the above depositions. They abound in many of minor consideration, too numerous to be individually remarked upon, but which collectively greatly of themselves diminish the credibility of the statements of the deponents, but combined with the circumstance of the relationship and connection they bear to the party whose cause they are brought forward to advocate, would

almost warrant their being laid aside and passed over without any observations being made upon them.

10. I do not consider the next deposition, or that of Beemsing, the brother of Soorujkoor, and as such greatly interested in the success of her cause, worthy of any other remark, except that it surpasses those I have already observed upon in the foolishness and magnitude of the contradictions and falsehoods with which it so plentifully abounds, and which alone is sufficient to occasion the greatest injury to the cause of Purtaub Sing. He appeared to me to have fallen into a great mistake in relating the particulars of the negotiation which took place between Soorujkoor and Ramsing about the former's return, and from his great confusion and embarrassment when asked whether this occurred on her first returning to her husband or whether it referred to a subsequent period, I am strongly induced to believe that he inadvertently commenced speaking the truth, and that the negotiation he alludes to referred to what took place prior to her first return; however this may be, his deposition is one continued tissue of perjury and falsehood.

11. The four next depositions are those of four Bramins, inhabitants of the village of Nanderia, about six kos distant from Mandwa, calling themselves Goors, or spiritual teachers, belonging to the Rana of Mandwa. The principal fact they depose to, is that the performance of the usual ceremonies in the fifth and seventh months of Soorujkoor's pregnancy was duly observed. The two first deponents assert they were present at the celebration of the latter ceremony, the third on that of the first, and the last on that of both. They all, however, disagree in the details, such as the number of persons who were present, &c. They all are dependants of the Rana of Mandwa, and from their dress and appearance seemed to be persons in a very inferior situation in life. They all, but the first deponent in particular, delivered their evidence in a very equivocating manner. The first is guilty of several contradictions, first asserting that he himself performed the Pooja of Gunputtee, and then another person by name Mahdojee; next stating that he was in Nanderia at the time Soorujkoor was married, but afterwards, that he was present in Mandwa on that event, and lastly stating that Soorujkoor was ten or eleven years old when she was married, and twenty when she gave birth to Purtaub Sing, which happened at furthest only two years after the former event. The second deponent states that Soorujkoor was delivered of Purtaub Sing three months after leaving her husband, which is an assertion we should not expect to be made by one who had been really present at a ceremony performed a longer period than that after her return. He likewise states the cause of Ramsing's confinement being the pregnancy of his wife, which is incorrect. The third witness states that Soorujkoor, at the time of her marriage, was said by her father and mother and all people to be only eleven or twelve years of age. Is it likely,

therefore, that he should be called upon to attend at the ceremony in question, unless the observance of it was only the commencement of a trick some persons had it in contemplation to play off at a subsequent period? With the exception of the first witness, who states that Soorujkoor appeared pregnant, none of the others depose to that effect, and the last, although he says she appeared fat in person, could not state she was pregnant, which one would naturally suppose would require very little observation to be apparent in a woman (like Soorujkoor must have been) advancing in her eighth month of pregnancy. It is worthy of remark that not one of these deponents were able to depose to the time that elapsed after Ramsing's ascending the Gadce and Soorujkoor's return, and did not make the least allusion to Ramsing coming himself in person to fetch her.

12. The next in order is the translation of the two examinations of Soorujkoor taken by yourself at Baroda. This is more minute in the detail, giving the date of Purtaub Sing's birth, &c. &c., but does not essentially differ from the statements of the former deponents in the main story. The female attendant she alludes to in her answer to question the 2nd, is the same person whose evidence I have so particularly remarked upon in my former letter. Her answer to questions 5 and 8 are by no means satisfactory. Her answer to question the 10th throws some light upon what was her real age at the time of her marriage. She in it states she had her monthly courses in her thirteenth year and when she was unmarried. This, however, is directly contradicted by Meetabae, who states that she positively knows for certain that she had not them before her marriage, but when she came to Nandod and lived in the house of Dair Shunker. On the supposition, therefore, that she had them at the age she states, thirteen, and that she did not have them until after her marriage, at the place stated by Meetabae, she could not have been much more than twelve at the time of her marriage, as, according to her own statement, and that of many of the other witnesses, Ramsing remained six months in Mandwa after that event. If this inference is correct, her statement that she was fourteen when she married is false, and if it is true as she states that she first came to Ramsing in her fifteenth year, this must have been about the time (if not subsequent to it) that she states she was delivered of Purtaub Sing. Her statement in answer the 12th will, in evidence I shall hereafter remark upon, be proved false. The thirteenth answer appears evasive, and leads me to suppose that she was not treated in the kind manner she states she was by her husband. Her answer to questions 14 and 16 are undoubtedly false, as it is well known that Ramsing, during nearly the whole time he was seated on the Gadce, was the Raja merely in name, but acted according to the will and direction of the Karbarees for the time being. Her answer to question the 17th is full of inaccuracies. The ceremony of *Puttha-beshak* was not performed when

Purtaub Sing ascended the Gadee. This is proved not only from the testimony of many respectable persons, but from that of the Bheel Wussawa, whose hereditary right it is to perform the Chandla ceremony, which, according to Soorujkoor's own account, always forms a part of the Puttha-beshak ceremony. By the testimony of the same Bheel likewise, the Chaudla ceremony was performed by his (the Bheel's) father, on the accession of Ramsing to the sovereignty of the country. The Acchye Puttha alluded to in answer the 19th, must be the Sunnud I have already mentioned was given to Purtaub Sing by the Gaekwar Government, investing him with authority during the life-time of his father. It is true that some Umelias were sent from Baroda by Gungadhur Shastree, but not at the time Soorujkoor mentions, as they had been in Rajppeepla two or three years before Ramsing's death, and were in the first instance obtained by Kishundas Bukshee. The answer to the 20th question is likewise incorrect as to the time of the commencement of Narsing's disturbances. I shall have occasion to allude more particularly to the last answer contained in Soorujkoor's examination, and shall merely therefore now observe, that it appears evasive, as she does not refer to the time of her first returning to her husband (to which I conclude the question refers), and that her stating that Huttysing was dismissed is altogether incorrect. Her second examination relates to the performance of the usual ceremonies in her fifth and seventh months of pregnancy, and her answers are by no means detailed and satisfactory, and add little if any force to the evidence of the four Bramins remarked upon in para. 11 of this letter. She positively states that Ramsing's Bramins were not present, but that they were performed by her father's Bramins in Mandwa.

13. The nine succeeding depositions are those of five dependants of the Rana of Mandwa, Rajpoots living in that place; of Manockjee Parsee, formerly a servant living with Ramsing; and of a Jumadar and two Bargeers formerly in the service of Ajebsing and Ramsing. The evidence they contain is not very important, and the greater part is given from hearsay. The four first depose to have been present in Mandwa when Purtaub Sing was born, and of the usual ceremonies and rejoicings being made on the occasion. That such were made I have not the least doubt, but the question is whether they were made really on account of Soorujkoor's delivery, or to contribute to the success of an imposture? Their evidence abounds in numerous contradictions and misstatements. The first, for example, repeatedly replied, when asked what was her age at the time of Purtaub Sing's birth, that people said she was twenty-four or twenty-five years old. The second, states the Rana of Mandwa went to Rajppeepla to perform a certain ceremony after the death of Ajebsing, which is directly contradicted by the next witness. The third, states Ramsing came himself to escort Soorujkoor to Rajppeepla, which is contradicted by the first and fourth deponents, the latter stating that she did not return

till a year and a half or two years after he had been seated on the Gadee, because her husband did not send for her. *They all state her age at the time of her marriage from hearsay; three of them that she was fifteen or sixteen, and one that she was ten or twelve. Many other minor differences are to be met with in their respective statements. The fifth witness merely deposes to having been in Mandwa when the tomtoms were beaten, &c. &c.; but is remarkable from the manner in which he delivered his evidence, which was such as to convince me he knew the particulars of the story, but would not inform me of them. The only observation to be made on the evidence of the Parsee, is his statement that when he (the deponent) left his master, he was preparing to perform a ceremony in consequence of Soorujkoor being advanced in her pregnancy two months and a half: this must be false, as no such ceremony is ever observed at the time he mentions. The evidence of the Jumadar and the two Bargeers contains nothing of importance, except that they are positive that the Raja did not go himself to bring Soorujkoor, but that she returned to him (according to the Jumadar's statement) when Purtaub Sing was four years old, but according to that of the Bargeers, when he was three.

14. The remaining depositions are those of certain Desaees and other inhabitants of the Balode and Jubboogaum Purgunas. These of course are of much less weight than the others, as the deponents, living at a distance from the capital, cannot be supposed to know much more than what has reached them by report; accordingly such of them as give evidence in Purtaub Sing's favour, merely depose to such facts as the news of his birth being brought to their village, and of their having seen Purtaub Sing living with Ramsing at Rajpeepla. Of these witnesses, however, notwithstanding they were brought to me by the Karbaree of Purtaub Sing, no less than nine give their voice in favour of Narsing. Two others, although they do not so directly advocate the cause opposed to the one they are produced to support, may be considered to be of the same way of thinking; and another witness, although he states Purtaub Sing in his opinion to be the legitimate Raja, yet does so merely from the circumstance of his having already sat on the Gadee, and at the same time acknowledges that the world was divided in opinion as to the reality of Purtaub Sing being born of Soorujkoor when it was made known. These facts speak volumes, and require no comment.

15. Such are the observations it has occurred to me to make upon the first enclosure; and from them will be seen upon what sort of basis Purtaub Sing's pretensions are founded. I now proceed to make such remarks as appear necessary upon the nature of the evidence contained in the second enclosure, marked B.

16. On reference to the 11th para. of my former letter on the Rajpeepla case, it will be observed that allusion is made to a number of letters given to

Mr. Williams in support of Purtaub Sing's claims to the succession, purporting to be from some of the principal inhabitants of most of the Purgunas in the Rajppeepla State. These, on many accounts, but principally from the uniformity of their style and contents, and from the circumstance of the writers of the letters from the capital of the country stating nothing more than the writers of those living thirty or forty kos distant, I suspected had not been properly obtained, and the depositions now to be considered will prove my suspicion was not altogether groundless.

17. The letters in question were ten in number, besides which Purtaub Sing's Karbaree has produced three others he states were written at the same time, but which were not given to Mr. Williams with the others; but from what cause this happened, he is unable to explain. The second enclosure to this letter contains the depositions, fifty-three in number, of such of the persons whose attendance I was able to procure, who are stated to have affixed their signatures to the letters alluded to, and which are written in the order the letters stand translated, and not in that in which the depositions were taken.

18. The first letter is stated to have been sent from Ingreea, distant from Nandod about twenty-five kos, and to have been signed by all the Patels of that and the other villages of the Ingreea Purguna; but only fourteen names are actually affixed. Of these, three did not sign it, four were unable to attend through sickness to give me their depositions, one is since dead, and the remainder signed it in consequence of their receiving a letter from Purtaub Sing's party, informing them that the gentleman at Baroda wanted them to write. The other depositions are those of other Patels in the same Purguna, who all deny having signed the letter in question. Their depositions contain nothing of importance, and most of them appeared perfectly indifferent as to who is their proper Raja. Bawabhye, the person alluded to as having come for the letter, is one of the Karbarees of Purtaub Sing.

19. The second letter is said to have been written from the village of Ram-poorra in the Nandod Purguna, distant from Nandod about five kos, and to have been signed by three Rajpoots residing in that village. Of these, one is since dead, one signed it, but the other did not. The evidence of the two latter is not of any importance, merely deposing to the facts of the report of Purtaub Sing's birth being circulated, and of his afterwards being brought up by the Raja. The first, however, deposes that no rejoicings were made at the time, because Narsing and his party (in which we may fairly include Ajebsing) said it was false: both likewise positively assert that Ramsing did not go himself to Mandwa to bring Soorujkoor, but that he sent a man for that purpose.

20. The third letter is said to have been sent from Nandod, and to have been signed by eight Desaees and other inhabitants residing in the Nandod Purguna. As I have taken the evidence of the writers of this letter on the

subject of another letter said to have been written by them to Narsing in Sumvut 1870, or A. D. 1813, I did not think it necessary again to take their depositions on the subject of this second letter, conceiving that their opinions and evidence on the present dispute were clearly set forth in their former depositions. I have, however, since seen five of those whose names are affixed, and have learnt that three of them signed it willingly, one was made to do so by force, and the other did not sign it at all.

21. The fourth letter is stated to have been written from Gowallee, and to have been signed by all the Desaees and Patels of that Purguna, but has only the names of nine persons actually affixed; of these, however, only two actually signed it, and of them one was induced to do so by the directions of Bawabhye, the person I have before mentioned, without reading the letter himself or having it read to him; this latter person gives his voice in favour of Narsing, and the other appeared indifferent. It would be altogether a waste of time to make any other remark upon the dreadful perjury and falsehood to be observed in the depositions of two of the persons said to have signed this letter, except that it cannot give us a very high opinion of the cause of Purtaub Sing that his Karbarree should find himself compelled to avail himself of the testimony of such disreputable witnesses.

22. The three following letters were written from Ruttunpoor, distant from Nanded about twenty-five kos, and were really signed by those whose names are affixed. They were obtained by the same person and in the same manner as the preceding ones. The evidence contained in the depositions of the writers of these letters is not of much importance; only one of them directly gives his voice in favour of Purtaub Sing, because he has heard that Ramsing nourished and brought him up; the remainder appeared perfectly indifferent on the subject.

23. The ninth and tenth letters are written from Nanded, and to them are affixed the names of eleven Bramins, inhabitants of that place. Of these, six signed willingly, four from fear of being injured if they did not do so, and one did not sign it. Their evidence has been taken, and is of importance. The first witness was one of the *Rajgoors* in the service of the Rajpeepla Government: he is guilty of many misstatements; he says, for instance, that Soorujkoor was eighteen or twenty years old when she was married, that Ramsing sent for his wife two or three months after he had ascended the Gadee, and that Purtaub Sing was only two months old when she returned. He states he was with the Raja himself at the time, and is therefore certain that he (Ramsing) did not go himself to bring her. This fact is likewise corroborated by four others of the persons said to have signed these letters. One of the witnesses states that he heard from many people that Soorujkoor was pregnant before he heard of the birth of Purtaub Sing. The direct falsehood the

deponent Senbhye told, renders his evidence suspicious. Baroot Vuckut Ram is the person who did not sign the letter; but I think he would not have refused to have done so had he been present, but merely make the remark to show the probability of many of the other signatures having been made in that same manner by persons who had no right to do so. This deponent states he heard of Soorujkoor's pregnancy prior to Purtaub Sing's birth. I deem it right to mention a fact which of itself renders the evidence of two of the writers of this letter very suspicious. On the 13th of December last Purtaub Sing's Karbaree gave me a list containing the names of nine females he intended to produce as his witnesses; subsequently, however, he informed me that five of them would not attend. Upon inquiry I found that they had not been consulted, but that their husbands had promised (and, according to report, under certain conditions) to compel them to give evidence on their side of the question, but found all their endeavours unavailing. Amongst these were the wives of Vujah Sunker Josee and Mahdoram Bhut. I did all I could afterwards to persuade these women to attend me; but they refused, threatening to commit violence upon themselves if compelled to do so, and I reluctantly desisted from the attempt.

24. The four persons who state they were obliged to sign the letter by force, are the same who are alluded to in the 35th para. of my former report. They gave their evidence before at Baroda in 1819, since which, one of them, by name Bapoo Bhut, is dead: the others have again given their evidence, and in it is to be found additional information of consequence. Hurreechunder specifies three different occasions on which he saw Soorujkoor a year after her marriage, and she appeared quite a girl. He states her age to have been ten or eleven when she was married; that she demanded Bhandaree from her husband, on account of the boy, before she returned to him. The fact he mentions of Meetabace, the mother of Jeytsing, requesting Goolabkoor, another of the wives of Ramsing, to sham pregnancy, is very important. Although it stands upon the testimony of this person alone, yet from what I have been able to ascertain of his character, from the manner in which he delivered his testimony and other circumstances, I must deem it worthy of credit. It is certainly a probable story, as the age of Goolabkoor rendered the success of the imposture more likely, than it would have been when the person who acted the principal part of the scene was so young as Soorujkoor appears to have been. I think the circumstance of the witness at once informing me no other person to his knowledge knew of the fact, as the conversation which passed between him and Goolabkoor, when the latter came to ask his advice upon the subject, was only between themselves, is in favour of his statement being true; as had he preconcerted the story with others, he would most probably have backed it up by the testimony of other persons procured for the purpose,

a task which the little consideration the natives in general unfortunately attach to an oath rendered by no means difficult. The deponent Despandee Muttun states that news arrived at Nandod of the Sutmasee ceremony having been performed at Mandwa, and of Soorujkoor's being delivered of a son, which everybody suspected was false.

25. The letters given me by Wurnaser since I left Baroda are from persons living in the Balode, Ruttunpoor, and Jubboogaum Purgunas. The first is signed by three persons only, one of whom is since dead. The two persons who are alive gave their evidence, which needs no remark, except that the one is full of falsehoods, and the other states that Narsing was Raja, and that people said Purtaub Sing was the son of Ramsing. The second letter is written from Beloor, a village in the Ruttunpoor Purguna, and is signed by six Patels of villages in that Purguna, all of whom acknowledge having signed it, but give different stories regarding it. Two of them neither read the letter nor had it read to them, one of them states that the Bramin who brought the news of Purtaub Sing's birth was sent by Ajebsing, assigning as the cause of his making this assertion that Ramsing was in confinement at the time and Ajebsing was his father, and therefore must have been the person who sent him. Two of the writers, however, assert what is more probable, that the Bramin was sent from Mandwa. The letter is mostly written from hearsay. The third letter is written from the Jubboogaum Purguna, the most distant of all the others from the capital of Rajpeepla. It is signed by four persons, three of whom acknowledge that they signed it; the other, however, asserting that they merely wrote a letter in reply to one they had received, stating that they were willing to write whatever the generality of the people of Rajpeepla agreed to say; he deposes likewise that he did not sign the letter, but was told it had been sent to Baroda.

26. Such is the issue of my inquiries regarding the authenticity of the letters produced by Purtaub Sing, which must be considered prejudicial to his cause. The only letters which were undoubtedly written by those whose signatures are affixed, are those I have remarked upon in the 22nd para. of this letter, and these, it must be remarked, make no mention of the Chandla mark having been made by Ramsing on Purtaub Sing's forehead, a short time before his death. The other letters are nearly *verbatim* the same, and some of them having been signed by persons living in Mandwa, and others by persons living thirty or forty kos distant from that place, we may naturally infer they were drawn out by the same person, and the signatures subsequently obtained from those whose names are affixed. It is necessary here to correct an error in the translation of these letters, which states that the usual ceremonies were performed on the occasion of Purtaub Sing's birth; not one of them, however, assert this; but the ceremony alluded to is the Choul Kurum ceremony (answering to the

Junovee ceremony observed by Bramins), which consists in shaving all the hair off the boy's head, with the exception of a single lock on the top. This all the letters state Ramsing caused to be performed to Purtaub Sing. It is generally celebrated when the boy commences his fifth year.

27. I now proceed to remark upon the three enclosures, marked C, which contain the depositions, twenty-two in number, of the witnesses produced by Purvoodas, the Karbaree of Narsing, to make good his master's claims. The eleven first depositions are those of the Thakoor of the village of Shanore, and ten other persons, either the relations or dependants of the former. These are principally useful as evincing the sentiment of the principal persons residing in a village about a mile distant from Mandwa at the alleged time of Soorujkoor's being delivered of Purtaub Sing. They are free from contradiction, and were, generally speaking, given in a clear and satisfactory manner. They all agree in stating that Purtaub Sing was not the son of Ramsing, but of Jyesing Rana, as his wife Soorujkoor was too young to be capable of bearing a child : her age at the time is differently stated by them to have been from ten to twelve years. One of the witnesses states the affair was in the first instance whispered about in secret, but afterwards talked about publicly, and adds that Ramsing sent for his wife some time after he had been seated on the Gadee, but she refused to return until he had granted her Bhandaree. Two of them state that Ramsing himself sent a message to Mandwa, directing his wife to sham pregnancy, in order to save his life. They likewise depose to the usual ceremonies being observed in Mandwa, the same as if Soorujkoor had really been delivered of a son, but people considered it to be a trick. Two of the deponents gave their evidence before at Baroda, and their two statements correspond exactly with one another ; one of them stating, in addition to what he before deposed, that he heard of the usual ceremonies being performed in the fifth and seventh months, people however observing that such was done to prevent Ajebsing from killing Ramsing.

28. The next in order is the re-examination of Purope Dajee Ram, the person alluded to in the 31st and 32nd paragraphs of my former letter ; and knowing the importance of his testimony from the circumstance of his having been one of Ramsing's officiating Bramins, I did all that I was able in order to discover any circumstance which might render his testimony suspicious, which, however, I have not done ; and I feel it right to observe, that no one could have given more satisfactory replies to the numerous queries put to him, and from his appearance I should consider him to be a very respectable witness. The substance of his evidence is as follows : That Soorujkoor demanded Bhandaree from her husband on account of Purtaub Sing, before she returned to him ; that the boy was carried to Rajpeepla two months after Soorujkoor herself had returned ; that Ramsing at times played

with the boy, but at others was angry with him, and made use of such expressions as "turn out the boy, I do not know whose seed he is"; and deponent gives an instance, on one occasion when he (the deponent) was about to make the Chandla mark on the child's forehead, when the Raja prevented him; he (the Raja) observing that he was not sprung from his seed. The deponent states that he was present when Soorujkoor was married to Ramsing, and guessed she was not more than eleven years old, as she had no breasts. He states the cause of Ramsing being confined, the discovery of a plot he was detected agitating to deprive his father of his dominions, because the latter would not increase his allowances. He states that he saw Soorujkoor prior to her escape from Mandwa, at which time, to the best of his belief, she was not pregnant, as she was too young and had never had monthly courses; that the Punchmasa and Sutmasa ceremonies were not performed, as his presence was necessary. He likewise deposes that several customary ceremonies were omitted at the time Purtaub Sing was placed on the Gadee, and that it was Kishundas Buxshee who was the principal person by whose means he was placed on the Gadee. In conclusion, he deposes he has heard that Ramsing wrote a letter to Narsing at Oodepoor, a short time before his death, requesting him to come and take charge of the government of Rajpeepla, as Purtaub Sing was not his son; but that Narsing did not come to Rajpeepla, as he feared it might be a plot to destroy him.

29. The Bramin alluded to in the evidence of this deponent, by name Jyesunker, is the same whose testimony I have remarked upon in para. 23 of this letter. The facts he mentions, of his knowing that Soorujkoor was not pregnant when she escaped to Mandwa, as she had never had her monthly courses, is of great importance. The ceremony he alludes to, which it would have been his duty to perform had she ever had them, is that known by the name of *Gurbahdan*, and is one of rejoicing and great publicity. The meeting he alludes to, which took place between His Highness Futteh Sing and Narsing, occurred in 1872, A. D. 1816, after the arrangement made by the Bhow had been concluded. It must likewise be observed that this witness deposes that it is not customary for the Raja about to die to make the Tulah mark upon the forehead of his successor, as it is stated (in the letters produced by Purtaub Sing) Ramsing did, but it ought to be done by the Rajgoor.

30. The next deposition is that of a person by name Huttysing Chowra, and is the person alluded to in the 24th para. of my former letter as having written a letter to Mr. Williams, replying to a set of questions sent to him for that purpose. He deposes that Soorujkoor was ten or eleven years old when she was married to Ramsing, and that it was about a year after that she was said to have given birth to Purtaub Sing, which is false; that he recollects Ramsing going to Mandwa for the purpose of seizing Salum Jumadar, on

which occasion the deponent accompanied him. Ramsing saw Soorujkooor and Purtaub Sing, but did not acknowledge the latter to be his son. He positively states that neither Soorujkooor nor Purtaub Sing returned with Ramsing to Rajpeepla, and acknowledges that it was he (the deponent) who persuaded the Raja to send for them. He gave this advice, because he knew the trick had been made to save the Raja's life, and adds that he himself was sent to bring them, by the Raja, who gave the Bhandaree of Abdullah Jumadar to Soorujkooor. In conclusion the deponent gives three very plausible reasons, which, combined together, induced Ramsing to act towards Purtaub Sing in the way he did, adding that he (the deponent) is certain that Ramsing had no fatherly affection for Purtaub Sing, who he has often seen ordered out of the Raja's presence when brought into it.

31. The evidence of Huttysing, whether we consider the situation he formerly held, or that in which he now is, must be considered of the highest weight and importance. His former situation was that of a man in the service of Ramsing, who, by a series of faithful services, raised himself from the lowest to the highest situation his master had it in his power to bestow upon him. His present situation is that of perfect independence, living in the village of Shoreulterut, under the protection of the British Government, upon the wealth he accumulated in Ramsing's service, and upon the produce of the land he farms in that village. His former situation must have made him acquainted with all the particulars of this mysterious case, and his present situation, (leaving out of consideration the improbability of his repaying the debt of gratitude he owes to his deceased master, by so unworthily testifying against the just claims of his son, on the supposition that Purtaub Sing is the true son of Ramsing) from its independence, renders it unlikely that he has given his testimony from improper conditions and motives. The real cause of his not returning to Rajpeepla, after leaving Ramsing in Sumvut 1864, A. D. 1806, was the fear he entertained of being plundered by Kishundas Bukshee, which may be adduced as one great proof of the immense authority that person had acquired over Ramsing, which was such as not to leave it in the power of the latter to protect those he most esteemed and regarded.

32. The five next depositions are those of three persons who were formerly Karkoons in the employ of Ajebsing and Ramsing, and of two Bramins, one of whom was in the habit of lending money to Ramsing when he was living in Nandod after his marriage with Soorujkooor, and the other was actually living in the same house as Ramsing did on that occasion. All of these agree in stating that Purtaub Sing was not the son of Ramsing, as Soorujkooor being only eleven or twelve years old, she was not capable of bearing a child. That Ramsing positively did not go to Mandwa to bring his wife to Rajpeepla, but that he sent persons for her some months after he had ascended the Gadee ;

that Ramsing was not his own master; and that the reason why he treated Purtaub Sing in the way he did, was because he (Purtaub Sing) had been instrumental in saving his life when in confinement.

33. The above witnesses were all very respectable men. The first is about sixty-three years old, and was one of those who were put in confinement at the same time as his master Ramsing was. This man states that it was Kishundas Bukshee who sent for Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing from Mandwa; that he never heard of Soorujkoor's being pregnant prior to the news arriving of her delivery, nor of either Ajebsing or Ramsing having distributed sugar, &c. &c. in Rajpeepla when the news did arrive. He, however, heard that Ramsing caused Purtaub Sing to be seated near him, a short time before his (Ramsing's) death, and cautioned him not to quarrel with any one, but to manage affairs wisely under the Bukshee. The second witness likewise deposes that both Ajebsing and Narsing asserted in his hearing that Purtaub Sing was false, and that Soorujkoor demanded Bhandaree from her husband, which was corroborated by the other Karkoon. The two Bramins frequently saw Soorujkoor when she was living in Mandwa with her husband in the house of Dair Shunker. One of them states, the reason why Ramsing did not send for Soorujkoor for some months after he had been seated on the Gadde was, because he was displeased with her on account of the imposture, adding that the reason of her being eventually sent for was because Kishundas and Moeedeen Jumadar were friends to the people at Mandwa, and it was from fear of them that Ramsing allowed the boy to be passed off as his own son, and took no notice of the imposture. The other states it was in consequence of the advice of the Karkarees that she was recalled to Rajpeepla.

34. The four remaining depositions are those of three relations of Jyesing Rana, and a Rajpoot, who had already given their evidence in Baroda, the nature of which is observed upon in the 18th paragraph of my former letter. I re-examined them with the view of ascertaining the veracity of their testimony by the corroboration of their former statements with those contained in their second depositions. They, however, deposed in substance the same as on the former occasion, giving some additional particulars without contradicting their former testimony. This circumstance must be considered greatly in favour of their testimony, as they were first examined in September 1819. The husband of the daughter of Jyesing Rana, it must be observed, is in the employ of Narsing. He states that on one occasion he heard both the father and mother of his wife declare Purtaub Sing to be their son, and that he has often heard the same from his wife, who always considered Purtaub Sing to be her brother. The second witness was cousin to Jyesing Rana, and agrees with the former witness in stating that Purtaub Sing was eleven days old when Soorujkoor took him. Neither of them ever heard of Jeytsing, Rana

of Mandwa, having given presents to Jyesing, after Purtaub Sing had been delivered to Soorujkoor. It is rather singular that the former witness should not have heard this from his wife, who asserts that her father did receive presents on several occasions from the Rana. Neither of them ever heard of Jyesing Rana having written a letter to Narsing acknowledging that Purtaub Sing was his son. The third witness is a young man residing in the village of Jubboogaum, in the Oodepoor Purguna, and states that it was his mother who informed him that Purtaub Sing was the son of his uncle Jyesing Rana.

35. Such is the additional evidence produced by Narsing, and whether we view the respectability and situations of the deponents, or the nature of the evidence brought forward, we cannot but admit its great superiority over that produced by Purtaub Sing. The statements of the former contain a strong chain of circumstantial evidence, with but few (and those trifling) contradictions in the statements of the several witnesses, which, after what I have already written, I need not say is the very reverse of the evidence produced by the latter.

36. It is necessary for me to observe, that I did not deem it requisite to make any inquiries relative to the authenticity of the letters produced by Narsing, purporting to be from the Raja of Mandwa and thirteen other persons residing in Mandwa and other places, stating that Purtaub Sing was false, &c. &c. This point was ascertained by a series of queries sent to the writers of these letters by Mr. Williams, the replies to which fully corroborated the substance of the letters they wrote to Narsing. Thus, therefore, while the numerous forgeries and false signatures discovered in the letters given to Mr. Williams by Purtaub Sing must considerably detract from the weight which otherwise might have been attached to the statements they contain, we cannot but allow full force to those contained in the letters of his rival, from their being the spontaneous sentiments of the persons whose names are affixed to them.

37. The 4th enclosure, marked D, contains the additional evidence I have obtained on the important point, whether the letter produced by Narsing, purporting to be from Jyesing Rana, is genuine, or (as was stated by the latter in the depositions he gave at Baroda in September 1819) a forgery. The particulars of this letter have already been detailed in the 15th, 16th, 27th, and two following paragraphs of my former letter; as, however, the case is of such vital importance towards admitting a just decision to be passed on the pending dispute, I shall again briefly recapitulate them.

38. The letter in question is dated the 4th of Maha Wud, Sumvut 1875, corresponding with the 14th February 1819, and in it the writer acknowledges that the Ranee Soorujkoor had purchased his son, by name Purtaub Sing, and that he (the writer) informs the person to whom it is addressed of the

circumstance, in order to take away the reproach which the deed had occasioned him amongst his (the writer's) caste. The letter is stated to have been procured through the agency of two Patels of the village of Phophulya in the Sinnor Purguna, and to have been written in the presence of two Bramins, one of whom was the writer of the letter. The two Patels and one of the Bramins were examined in Baroda in 1819, but the other Bramin, the writer of the letter, was not examined with them. The three persons examined deposed that the letter in question was written in their presence, and that Jyeesing Rana affixed his signature to it, the contents having been explained to him by one of the Bramins. Jyeesing Rana, however, in a deposition he gave at Baroda about the same period, positively denies having signed the letter produced by Narsing, which he states to be a forgery, and declares in conclusion that Purtaub Sing is not his son but the son of Raja Ramsing.

39. It therefore appeared to me necessary not only to examine the Bramin who is stated to have written the letter, but to re-examine the four persons who had already given their depositions at Baroda, to convict them if possible of contradictions, and to learn more fully the circumstances under which the letter was obtained. I regret, however, that the death of Jyeesing Rana, under very suspicious circumstances, has prevented my re-examining him.

40. I must here make a short digression, to state such particulars as I have been able to ascertain regarding the death of this important witness. I was first informed of the event by Wurnasee, the Karbaree of Purtaub Sing, but he was unable to inform me what had occasioned his death. I learnt upon inquiry that Jyeesing left Baroda on the 22nd of November last, that he arrived at Mandwa on the following day, and that about 10 o'clock on the night of the 24th he died in his own house; and the suddenness of his death occasioned great surprise to his neighbours, no one knowing of what he had died. I must confess, directly I heard of Jyeesing's death, a suspicion was excited that all was not right, and I regret to state my inquiries have tended in some degree to confirm that suspicion. I did not arrive at Chanood till the 27th, and had not therefore the opportunity of sending any one to view the body, as it had been burnt before my arrival. I could not, until my return to this place on the 2nd instant, either examine any person who had seen him on his return to Mandwa from Baroda. I have since seen a nephew of Jyeesing, who saw him on the day preceding his death. He states that it was his intention to have gone to Jyeesing's house directly upon hearing of his death, but was prevented by his sister, whom he had come to visit from Jubboogaum. On this account he did not see the corpse of his uncle, whose death, from its suddenness, had occasioned him great surprise. This person stated that when Jyeesing arrived in Mandwa, he was not in very good health, but by no means dangerously ill, and added he never heard any one say that it was suspected

that his uncle had died an unnatural death. He left Mandwa very soon after his uncle's death, as he himself was very ill indeed. By the enclosed deposition, however, of a Rajpoot who was on a visit to a relation in Mandwa at the time, it will be observed that some people suspected that poison had been administered to Jyasing previous to his leaving Baroda, by Soorujkoor, who considered it likely that the true story of Purtaub Sing would be made manifest by his re-examination. This deponent states that he heard this suspicion mentioned by many people in Chanood and Mandwa, and that it was excited by the suddenness of his death. He could not, however, mention the names of any of the persons he had heard say so, assigning as the cause that he is a stranger in Mandwa.

41. In the absence of all direct proof of this abominable act having been committed, I am inclined to hope the suspicion is unfounded, especially as the prevalence of the *cholera morbus* renders it probable that the cause of the suddenness of Jyasing's death may have been occasioned by that dreadful disease. I shall institute further inquiries on the subject, and shall not fail to report any additional information I may obtain, especially if it in any degree tends to lessen the suspicions now attached to his mysterious death. I do not, however, deem it necessary to delay my letter on this account.

42. Having given the imperfect information obtained regarding the death of the most important witness on the subject of the letter produced by Narasing, I now proceed to remark upon the evidence of the other persons concerned in this transaction. The first deposition is that of Oopadya Rajaram, the Bramin who was said to have written the letter, and its substance is as follows:—The deponent was proceeding on his way to the village of Kunalce from Chanood, and on his way there saw four persons sitting near the hut of a Byragee, viz., Narotum and Varsun, two Patels of Phophulya, Jyasing Rana, of Sutee Saoniah, and Umreswer, Nagur Bramin. He was acquainted with the latter person, but not with the other three persons, before the time he alludes to. Umreswer called to the deponent and requested him to write a letter in the name of Jyasing Rana to Narsing, stating that Purtaub Sing was his (Jyasing's) son. The deponent at first refused, but finally consented to do so, in consequence of Jyasing himself requesting him to write it, he (Jyasing) stating that he wished it to be written in order to take the blot off his head of having given his son to Soorujkoor. The deponent states that Umreswer read the letter in his presence to Jyasing, who approved of its contents, but did not affix his signature in the deponent's sight, as he (the deponent) went about his business to Kunalce. The letter being shown to him, he, without the least hesitation, declared it was his handwriting, and the identical letter he wrote on the occasion he has been alluding to.

43. The next deposition is that of Narotum, one of the Patels of the village

of Phophulya, alluded to in the deposition of Rajaram. This deponent having again deposed to the fact of Jyasing having given the letter in question, and stated as the cause of Jyasing's wishing the transaction to be kept secret, the fear he entertained that Jeytsing, the Rana of Mandwa, would destroy him if it came to his knowledge, gives the following explanation of his being present when the letter was written. The deponent had proceeded in company with Varsun, another Patel of Phophulya, to Baroda, on the subject of a dispute they then had with the Desace of Nowsarce, under whose authority their village is. On this occasion they met with Purvoodas, the Karbaree of Narsing, who having seen them before at Phophulya, recognised them, and asked them to obtain, if possible, a letter from Jyasing, acknowledging that Purtaub Sing was his (Jyasing's) son. To this they agreed, the deponent stating that his reason for so doing was the numerous reports he had heard that Purtaub Sing actually was the son of Jyasing. About two months after their return from Baroda, Jyasing came to the village of Phophulya to collect some Geeras rights, and the deponent took this opportunity of requesting him to give the letter in question. Jyasing replied he would first consult his sister on the subject, who had in the first instance persuaded him to give his son to Soorujkoor, and would meet the deponent another time. The deponent then states that Purvoodas directed Umreswer Bramin some time after this to endeavour to procure a letter from Jyasing through the agency of the deponent and Varsun, and that the Bramin having come to Phophulya and informed them of it, they all three proceeded to Chanood, a village about one kos from Mandwa. On their arriving there, the two Patels proceeded to Mandwa, leaving Umreswer in Chanood. They proceeded to Jyasing's house, and on being asked by him what they were come about, the deponent reminded him of what had passed between them on a former occasion regarding a letter. Jyasing at first refused to give the letter, but finally agreed to meet them the following morning at the hut of Lukhmidas Byragee. The next morning the two Patels, accompanied by Umreswer, went to the place appointed, and having waited about two ghurees, and Jyasing not making his appearance, Varsun was sent to call him. Varsun went and returned, Jyasing accompanying him. The two Patels having taken an oath to keep the matter a secret, Jyasing observed he was not able to write, but if any one would write a letter for him he would put his mark to it. The deponent then corroborates the testimony of Rajaram as to the place and the number of persons who were present when the letter was written, and as to Umreswer requesting Rajaram to write the letter, the former at first refusing, but finally consenting to do so upon Jyasing himself requesting him to write it, as well as to Umreswer's reading the letter to Jyasing. The deponent concludes by stating that Jyasing affixed his mark to the letter, of his own free will and consent, in his (the deponent's)

presence, and assigns as the reason why Jyesing confessed the fact to the deponent, that he (Jyesing) was Geerassia of the village of Phophulya, and every year received a certain quantity of grain from the deponent.

44. The third deposition is that of Varsun, the other Patel of Phophulya, alluded to in the two former depositions. He corroborates Narotum's evidence, stating the time at which Purvoodas first asked them to procure the letter from Jyesing; of Umreswer coming to them at Phophulya, and of the three going together to Chanood for the purpose of procuring the letter; of the particulars which occurred after their arrival at Chanood; with the addition that it was the Patels who pointed out the Byragee's hut as a convenient place at which the letter might be written, and of its being agreed between them that in case any one inquired of them where they were going, they were to say that they were going to the Byragee's hut to borrow money from him. He corroborates Narotum's statement as to what occurred the following morning, adding that no conversation passed between Jyesing and himself when he went to call him, but that the former accompanied him immediately and willingly. He likewise confirms Narotum's testimony as to what occurred after Jyesing's arrival, adding that Umreswer was in the first instance requested to write the letter, but he (Umreswer) refused, observing some other person had better write it, to avoid people suspecting anything. He deposes to the same effect as both the other witnesses as to the number of persons present, and concludes by saying that the letter having been previously read to Jyesing by Umreswer, and its contents having been approved of by the former, he (Jyesing) signed it in his presence.

45. The fourth deposition is that of Umreswer Bramin, who it appears had gone to Baroda to recover an instalment of a sum of money become due which he had lent to Purvoodas, when the latter requested him to endeavour to procure the letter through the agency of the two Patels. This witness confirms the testimony of the two Patels as to the fact of his going to them to Phophulya, adding that it was at the suggestion of Narotum that Varsun was requested to accompany them. He corroborated their evidence, of the Patels on their arrival at Chanood proceeding to Mandwa, and states that they informed him on their return that Jyesing had promised to meet them the following morning at the hut of Luckmeedas Byragee. He gives the same account of what occurred the next morning previous to Jyesing's joining them, and states that when he arrived, he (the deponent) asked him whether Purtaub Sing was his son? and Jyesing replying in the affirmative, the deponent requested him to write a letter to that effect. He then corroborates Varsun's testimony as to Jyesing's requesting him (the deponent) to write the letter for him, and his refusing to do so, and adds that the Patels were likewise asked by Jyesing to write it, but excused themselves on the ground of not

being able to write well. In conclusion he states the same facts as the others, of his requesting Rajaram to write the letter and his refusing until requested by Jyesing to do so, giving in substance the same conversation which passed between them, and states that he (the deponent) having read the letter to Jyesing, the latter put his mark to it, in the presence of the deponent and the two Patels, Rajaram having left them to proceed on his way to Kunalee. After this had been done, Jyesing cautioned them to keep the transaction secret, and the parties separated, and the deponent carried the letter to Baroda and delivered it to Purvoodas.

46. I have detailed at length the evidence of these four persons, in order to place this important fact in as clear a light as possible; and no one, I should think, after perusing the statements contained in their depositions, can reasonably doubt that the letter to which they refer is genuine, and that it was voluntarily given by Jyesing Rana, who must have been induced, either by threats or bribes, to recant his former statements. We can easily imagine four persons entering into an agreement to tell one and the same story regarding any particular fact, yet it cannot be supposed possible that the four persons whose evidence I have been remarking upon should be able, in the strict cross-examination they underwent, to avoid numerous contradictions in their replies to questions they could not have known would have been put to them, on the supposition that the story they tell is false. In the case, however, before us, each deponent relates the same particulars, even to the minute details of conversation which passed on the occasion, without the least equivocation or confusion, each person giving some additional information occurring to his recollection, which it is natural to suppose might not be remembered by all the parties to the transaction, which took place upwards of two years since. There is, however, one contradiction observable in the evidence of the two Bramins. The writer of the letter deposes that Umreswer read the letter in his (the writer's) presence, and that Jyesing approved of the contents of it in his hearing. Umreswer states that he only read a part of the letter in the writer's presence, and that Jyesing did not approve of the contents in his presence. I do not think much importance can be attached to this circumstance, or that it can much affect their testimony; it is the only difference which occurs, and Jyesing might have approved of the part which was read to him in the writer's hearing, prior to the latter's leaving the hut.

47. For the manner in which the evidence regarding this letter was delivered, I beg leave to refer to the remarks made at the end of each deposition at the time they were taken. I have not been able to discover a single circumstance, which might render the testimony of either of the four witnesses in any degree suspicious. The Bramin who wrote the letter resides generally in Nandod, possesses some hereditary property, and trades on a small scale: he

does not appear to have had any connection with Narsing or the advocates of his cause. Umreswer is a man of considerable wealth, and his principal employment is lending out money at interest, and, according to his own testimony, he appears to have had money transactions with the Karbaree of Narsing prior to the period at which the letter was written. The two Patels bear a good character in their village, and appeared simple and illiterate men.

48. I have the honour to return the original letter from Jyesing, together with a specimen of the writing of Rajaram, in order that the two may be compared together. With respect to the former, it is necessary to observe that the word *Sumut*, commencing the seventh line from the top, appears to have been written by a different person than the one who wrote the other part of the letter, not only from the difference in the style, but from a different *s* being written than the one used throughout the letter, the palatal *s* being used in every other instance, except in this word, in which the dental *s* is made use of. Narsing's Karbaree, upon being shown the letter, admitted there was an apparent difference, and could not account for it, except by supposing the writer might have changed his pen. This interpolation, supposing it to be so, is not of any importance, as it does not in any degree alter the most material part of the letter, but merely writes the salaam of Jyesing and that of all persons residing in Mandwa to Narsing, instead of the salaam of Jyesing alone. Regarding the letter, I have not called any number of persons before me to decide whether it is the writing of the person who wrote the letter for Jyesing, considering it likely that the persons I might select might be interested in the cause of one of the two parties, which might prompt them to give a wrong decision, and conceiving it therefore more advisable that the comparison should be made at Baroda than at Nandod. From what I have written, however, it will readily be inferred what my opinion is on the subject; and I cannot avoid making one more observation in favour of the letter being genuine, viz. the very circumstance of a disinterested person being called in to write the letter, and of the other parties having refused to write it to avoid exciting suspicion. This must be considered as a convincing proof of no force or undue influence being resorted to in procuring the letter from Jyesing, otherwise they would not have made any delay on account of so trifling a circumstance.

49. Narsing having established so important a fact as the above, I did not hesitate candidly to inform Wurnasee, Purtaub Sing's Karbaree, of the circumstance, explaining to him how strongly it would weigh against his master's claims, and directing him, if he was able, to produce any evidence to controvert it. It is almost to be regretted that I did so, otherwise I might have prevented several persons from committing the dreadful crime of perjury. When I informed Wurnasee of it, I warned him of the consequences which

would follow the discovery of false witnesses being made use of by him for the purpose I had mentioned, as such would in the end only be detrimental to the cause they were brought forward to support: the issue will, however, show my caution was altogether disregarded.

50. The three principal persons by whom Wurnasee hoped to diminish the force of the fact of Jyeesing Rana's having given the letter to Narsing, are Hurba Bapoo, nephew to Myral Narrain, and Camavisdar of the Sinnor Purguna; Ambydas, a Patel of the village of Phophulya; and Nursudhut, a Bramin, who is occasionally employed by Purtaub Sing in the capacity of a Karkoon. It would be a needless waste of time to enter into a long discussion as to the nature of the evidence contained in their respective depositions, and I shall therefore confine my remarks to within as narrow limits as I am able. Hurba Bapoo states, that in consequence of Wurnasee sending Nursudhut to inform him that two of the Patels of the village of Phophulya were interfering in his (Wurnasee's) affairs, he sent for them separately and inquired of them on the subject, on which occasion they both confessed that Narsing had requested them to do the business for him, and that they had agreed to do it for the sake of their bellies. He further states that Narotum and Varshun told him that they had been promised 500 rupees, 100 of which they had received in 1874, which sum was actually paid to the deponent's Mehta in part payment of the revenue due from the Patel. The deponent directly declares, that neither of the Patels would inform him what trick they alluded to, and therefore he (the deponent) does not know to what trick allusion was made, but supposes it was made to a trick performed, and not one which still remained to be executed. Ambydas, who it appears is the person through whom Hurba Bapoo transacts all his affairs connected with the village of Phophulya, gave a description of an attempt he (Ambydas) made, with the knowledge of Hurba Bapoo, to bribe Narotum to give Wurnasee a letter declaring that the letter produced by Narsing was false. He states that Narotum agreed to do so, upon which the deponent informed Hurba Bapoo of it, who replied he could not give any money for the letter, but told the deponent to ask the Karbaree of Purtaub Sing to do so. This Ambydas did, and Nursudhut returned to Chanood to ask Wurnasee about it. The deponent then states that notwithstanding Narotum had agreed to give the letter, he (the deponent) during Nursudhut's absence asked Narotum what answer he should give to Nursudhut when he returned, when Narotum replied he would not give the letter, but would say so *viva voce*. Now if Narotum had agreed to give the letter in the first instance, what occasion was there for Ambydas putting the above question to him? When Nursudhut returned, he told the deponent that he would agree to give to Narotum whatever he (Ambydas) should settle, upon which the deponent informed him of the answer Narotum had given

him, and likewise informed Hurba Bapoo of what had passed, who told him to let the business alone. Ambydas then, in direct contradiction to the statement of Hurba Bapoo, asserts that he was present when Hurba Bapoo spoke to Varsun on the subject. He gives a different statement (as to the remuneration Varsun stated they had received for getting the letter) from that given by Hurba Bapoo. This witness, therefore, proves that Hurba Bapoo has been guilty of two most infamous falsehoods, the one in stating that he did not know what trick they conversed about, and the other that Ambydas did not hear what conversation passed between him and Varsun, when the former directly declares he was sent for by Hurba Bapoo, who informed him in Varsun's presence of the conversation which had passed between them. It is worthy of observation that Ambydas acknowledges he neither heard Narotum nor Varsun declare that the letter they had procured from Jyasing was false. Although I might make many remarks upon the evidence of Nursudhut, which exceeds that of the two former witnesses in the number of the falsehoods and contradictions it contains, I shall merely observe that the account he gives, regarding what took place at Sinnor varies in many essential respects from that of the two former deponents. He corroborates Ambydas's statements as to Hurba Bapoo's knowing what trick the two Patels alluded to, and of the conversation which passed between Varsun and Hurba Bapoo being repeated by the latter to Ambydas, and declares it was Hurba Bapoo himself who put the question to Narotum regarding the money, and not Ambydas. He denies having told Ambydas that he would agree to give to Narotum whatever he settled, adding that Wurnasee refused to give any money for a letter from Narotum; but he confesses that Ambydas informed him, on his return to Sinnor, that Narotum, during his absence, had said he would not give a letter. He states that Varsun declared in the presence of Hurba Bapoo, Ambydas, and the deponent, that the letter was false, and that they did it for the sake of their bellies. The two following depositions are those of two other Patels of Phophulya, whose names were given in to me by Wurnasee, as witnesses he intended to produce to give evidence on the same subject; but I conclude their virtue was too strong to be corrupted by the temptations which may have been held out to them, as they both declared they knew nothing on the subject.

51. Such is the infamous conspiracy which has been entered into, not to prove the letter to be a forgery, but to vilify the characters of two of the persons through whose agency it was obtained. It is difficult for me to state whether my astonishment was more excited by the mysteriousness of the manner in which Hurba Bapoo delivered his evidence, or by the simplicity and folly of the Patel in detailing a systematic attempt made by himself, with the

countenance of his master, to bribe over the Patels; or by the cunning and craftiness displayed by the Karkoon on the occasion. It is impossible to account for Hurba Bapoo's motive in denying that he knew the trick alluded to by the Patels, except from the vain hope that by giving his evidence in enigmas he would avoid the guilt of perjuring himself.

52. Although the internal evidence of the falsity of the above testimony is sufficiently apparent, I considered it necessary to re-examine the two Patels on the subject, and more particularly regarding the 100 rupees Hurba Bapoo stated they paid to his Mehta, being the sum they had received from Umreswer for getting the letter from Jyesing Rana. In their depositions will be observed the whole history of what took place at Sinnor; the bribes which were offered to them in case they complied with the wishes of their master; the threats of incurring the displeasure of their master, and his withholding a small sum annually due to them from being Patels in case of non-compliance; and, above all, a most satisfactory explanation regarding the sum Hurba Bapoo stated was received from them by his master in Sumvut 1874.

53. It appears that the money in question was borrowed from Umreswer, by the two Patels, to pay their revenue; that the money is still unpaid; that lands were mortgaged on account of the debt, and bonds drawn out in the regular manner by the Tulatee or Karkoon of the village of Phophulya. I have taken the evidence of the Bramin who lent the money, as well as that of the Tulatee who drew out the bonds. From these it will appear the money was borrowed on account of Hurba Bapoo having sent Mohsils on the village of Phophulya to collect the balance of revenue due to him. I have seen the bonds, and they are drawn out in every respect conformably to custom; the rate of interest is 15 per cent., and the bonds are witnessed by the person who drew them out, and the bond of Narotum witnessed by Varsun, and that of the latter by Narotum. It is necessary to observe, that the person from whom the money was borrowed is the same who was concerned in the procuring the letter from Jyesing, and on that account, if the fact of the money having been borrowed from him rested upon his evidence alone, it might be considered as suspicious, but being so clearly supported by the evidence of the Tulatee, who came altogether unprepared for his examination, and Umreswer living in Phophulya in the capacity of money-lender, and as such it is natural to be supposed that the Patels would repair to him in the exigency of their case, I do not think the truth of the money having been borrowed can reasonably be doubted. How lamentable is it, therefore, to think that a man (I will not say of respectability, but) possessing such wealth as Hurba Bapoo is master of, should so far degrade his character, as not only to consent to become the principal instrument in a base conspiracy to deprive these two poor Patels of their reputation, but to increase two-fold the infamy his conduct so justly

merits, by endeavouring to establish the fact of their having received money from Umreswer gratuitously, when in fact they were compelled to borrow it, at an exorbitant and ruinous rate of interest, to satisfy his own clamorous demands for the revenue due to him as Camavisdar of Sinnor!

54. The last deposition contained in the 4th enclosure, is that of the person who was sent to Phophulya to summon the Patels to attend me, which requires no other remark, except that it corroborates the statement of the Patels as to the answer given by them when he informed them of the object of his mission. The letter produced by Narsing having there been proved as clearly as circumstances will admit to be genuine, I might perhaps be warranted in concluding my letter without making any further remark upon the subject; as, however, the case cannot possibly be made too clear, I shall proceed to offer a few observations on the nature of the evidence contained in the four remaining enclosures, considering that such will afford additional proof of the legitimacy of Narsing's claims to the succession.

55. The fifth enclosure, marked E, contains the result of my inquiries relative to the letter alluded to in the 37th and 38th paragraphs of my former letter. The letter in question is dated the 11th of Kartick Wud, Sumvut 1870, corresponding with the 18th of November 1813, and is produced by Narsing, who states it was given to him by the persons whose names are affixed to it, at the time he (Narsing) came to Nandod for the purpose of making a settlement with Myral Narrain, of his dispute. In this letter is written that the writers of the letter are all ready to obey Narsing's orders, and that, when he returned to the hills, they would cross the Nerbudda with their families, and leave the Purguna deserted, until a settlement of Narsing's affairs should be concluded, as they did not wish to have anything to do with Myral Narrain and the false Purtaub Sing. Bhatt security is given by the writers of the letter for the performance of their part of the agreement. A paper is, however, produced by Purtaub Sing, bearing the signatures of four only of the persons who signed the letter in question, stating that the letter was obtained by force, as they signed it to save their crops (which were ready to be cut) from being plundered, and that the word false was not inserted before the name of Purtaub Sing in the original letter, but has subsequently been interpolated.

56. Nagur Ambydas, one of the persons said to have signed the paper produced by Purtaub Sing, is dead; on reference, however, to the deposition of the three other persons, it will be observed, that they all admit that the letter given to Narsing was signed willingly and of their own accord, assigning as the cause, however, of their doing so, the wish to save their crops from being plundered, and that they gave money to Narsing on the same occasion with a similar view. They all deny having ever signed any statement declaring it was obtained by compulsion. Two of them, however, state that the word

false was not inserted, though Gunnesjee did not say so until after much hesitation and confusion; the other person declared he did not know whether it was inserted or not. The three other depositions are those of three others of the persons who signed the letter given to Narsing. One of the Bhatta who became security is since dead; the other had left Nandod prior to my arrival, and I could not find out whither he had gone. The evidence of the last mentioned persons states, likewise, that the letter was given of their own accord, not however with a view of saving their crops, but with that of getting Myral Bhow out of the country, and because they considered Narsing to be the proper Chieftain of Rajpeepla. It is to be observed that Purvoodas Dessae had already given in a written statement declaring that the letter was written by him, and that the word *Kotah* was inserted before the name of Purtaub Sing in the original; the other two depose that they cannot recollect whether it was inserted or not.

57. Such of the persons, therefore, who signed the letter (that I have been able to examine) having unanimously deposed that the letter was given to Narsing willingly and of their own accord, and being equally divided in the motives by which they were actuated in doing so, it remains only now to be considered which of the two statements appears to be the correct one, and to discover whether the act originated from the persons concerned having in view the preservation of their property, or whether it was not the act of an indignant peasantry wishing to free themselves from the domineering and intrusive authority of Myral Narrain, combined with the object of facilitating by it the restoration of the person they considered to be their legitimate Chieftain, to the rights which had been usurped from him.

58. It is necessary shortly to state the circumstances under which Narsing came to Nandod at the period in question. It was at the invitation of Myral Bhow, and a temporary settlement was made by Myral Bhow with Narsing, in order to induce the latter to cease from plundering the country, the basis of which was, that Narsing should remain in Nandod and Purtaub Sing in Mandwa. Purtaub Sing was to have no Karbaree in Rajpeepla, but the management of the country was to be jointly conducted by Narsing and Myral Bhow, and each was to have his own Karkoon. This settlement continued only in force for a few months, when Myral Bhow broke the agreement by refusing to permit Narsing to have his own Karkoon and wishing to allow Purtaub Sing to return to the country. The Jumadars of Nandod came voluntarily forward and proposed to Narsing that (in consequence of Myral Bhow's conduct) he should return to the hills and recommence plundering, and that they would in the mean time desert their houses. Accordingly the letter, the merits of which I have been discussing, was passed to Narsing on the part of the Jumadars; and the former it appears passed a writing, which I have not

been able to obtain, but, from what I have been able to learn, recapitulated the agreement of the opposite party, and stated that when he (Narsing) recommenced plundering the country, their property should be made an exception and be considered sacred.

59. The fact of the Jumadars coming voluntarily forward and making the above proposition to Narsing, is rendered more than probable from the circumstance of his not being under the necessity of leaving Nandod, having himself at the time a very respectable force, without any other opposed to him, and consequently at liberty to do whatever he pleased. If the agreement was made with a view of preserving their property, would it not be so stated in the original letter? and is it likely so many of the most respectable Desaces of the Nandod Purguna should have consented to make so great a sacrifice as the abandonment of their houses and all that is generally held so dear by mankind, merely with a view of saving a few crops of standing corn (which could not have been of any great value from the season at which the letter was written)? This can hardly be supposed probable, and we must look for some much more powerful incentive for the act, and therefore conclude they must have been actuated by the motives stated by the three last deponents. If this is a fair conclusion, the three first deponents, it is evident, must originally have been on the side of Narsing. From some cause, however, they have changed sides, having all three given evidence at Baroda in favour of Purtaub Sing, and the circumstance of their changing sides renders their evidence (which is of itself unimportant) of little value.

60. It is necessary to point out a fact deposed to by Purvoodas, which occurred about the time of Ramsing's death, viz. a Jassoos being sent from Baroda by Babajee to Myral Bhow, directing him not to present cloths to Purtaub Sing on the termination of the days of mourning for Ramsing, and that although cloths were subsequently presented to him on the part of the Gaekwar Government through the influence of Gungadhur Shastree, they were not given at the usual and proper time. He likewise states that about 80,000 rupees were given away at Baroda on the occasion by Myral Bhow, and adds that he is acquainted with these facts from being in employment at the time. This is another circumstance which must operate strongly against the cause of Purtaub Sing. In the deposition of Bhowanydas will be seen an account of his having been forcibly obliged to sign a letter in the Durbar by Gunnesjee Desace and Gunnoobe Mama (a Karkoon belonging to the Gaekwar Government) without being allowed to peruse its contents; a fact I merely allude to, as evincing one more to the many proofs which exist, of the undue measures which have been resorted to by Purtaub Sing and his adherents to produce the little evidence they have been able to scrape together in support of their cause.

61. On referring to Umursee for an explanation of the manner in which the letter was obtained, he gave me the following evasive and unsatisfactory reply. He stated that the letter was brought to him (Umursee) by one of his men, who had been sent to Nandod for the purpose of investigating the point; but he does not recollect who brought it to him, or who was the person who was sent to carry on the investigation. Upon being asked how many persons signed the letter? he replied, all those who signed the former letter, with the exception of two only; when, as I have already stated, the original letter was signed by seven persons independent of the two Bhattas, and that given in by Purtaub Sing has only the names of four persons affixed to it. Umursee added that he did not know who gave the letter to his man, as he did not ask him the question. No further proof, therefore, can be required as to the letter produced being an impudent and barefaced forgery, and at the same time one of the most ill-contrived that ever was attempted.

62. The 6th enclosure, marked F, contains the answers of some of the most respectable inhabitants (57 in number) of Nandod and other places I have visited, to thirteen questions drawn out on the subject of the present dispute, principally with the view of ascertaining the several points adverted to in the 4th paragraph of this letter. The evidence contained in this enclosure must be deemed worthy of great weight, as although I may have accidentally summoned persons who had before determined what party they would support, the generality of the witnesses, from being the most respectable persons residing in each place, and from being summoned without themselves or either party knowing that such was my intention, may fairly be supposed to have given such replies as they thought were true, especially as they all had the usual oath administered to them according to their faith.

63. The 1st and 2nd questions refer to the age of Soorujkoor at the time she was married to Ramsing, and to the length of time which elapsed after that event before it had been reported she had been delivered of a son. The

* F, Nos. 15, 31, and 34. answers to the 1st question are of course from hearsay, and are as follow. Two* state her age to have been about ten; four† from eleven to twelve; two from twelve to thirteen; and one,‡ who lives thirty kos distant from Nandod, from eighteen to twenty. The other persons could give no answer, but from the above it must be inferred that in all probability Soorujkoor could not have been more than twelve years old when she married Ramsing, and

§ E, Nos. 15, 18, 21.

|| E, No. 8.

was probably younger. Only four persons replied to the 2nd question, three§ of them stating that it was about two years after her marriage, and the other|| about five years, that it was reported she was delivered of a son; the former, there is no doubt, is about the correct period that actually intervened.

64. The 3rd and 4th questions were put to ascertain whether it was generally known that Soorujkooor was pregnant when she left her husband in confinement in Nandod and escaped to Mandwa, and whether people heard of the usual ceremonies being performed in the fifth and seventh months of her pregnancy at the latter place. With the exception of one person alone, all the witnesses

* F, No. 11.

reply in the negative to the 3rd question, and this person* acknowledges that he only heard that she was

pregnant from one man, by name Putwa. Such being the case, the improbability of her pregnancy is at least established, as it can hardly be supposed the world would have been ignorant of the fact, especially when the publishing of it would have been likely to ensure the life of Ramsing. With the exception of these persons, all reply in the negative to the 4th question. Two of

† F, Nos. 16 and 21.

‡ F, No. 20.

them† say they heard of their being performed; adding however, that people considered it then to be a trick.

The other‡ states that he heard of the Sutmasee ceremony being performed only, and not that of the Punchmasee. I think it extremely doubtful whether these ceremonies were celebrated or not, but am inclined to think, from a view of all the evidence which has been produced on the subject, that the ceremony usually observed in the seventh month was gone through, but that observed in the fifth month was omitted. If this is correct, it would argue that the trick was not contemplated when the period at which the Punchmasee ought to have been celebrated occurred.

65. Question the 5th was put with the view of ascertaining the general feeling of the country when the report was circulated of Soorujkooor's having been delivered of a son. Fourteen of the persons replied that people considered it was false, and a trick made to save Ramsing's life. Fifteen asserted that people were divided in opinion on the subject, some thinking it was true, and others that it was false. Only one of the persons states that people considered she might have been delivered of a son, the rest answering that they were not able to inform me what people thought of it. The replies given, however, fully prove that the general opinion at the time of the report being spread abroad was that it was false.

66. The three following questions were put with the view of ascertaining the time which elapsed between the period at which Ramsing ascended the Gadec and Soorujkooor's returning to him; whether Ramsing went himself to Mandwa to bring her, or sent persons for that purpose; and whether Soorujkooor demanded Bhandaree from her husband prior to returning to him, and if she did, on what account she thought such necessary. Only nine persons were able to give any reply to the 6th question, and taking the average of the different periods they mention, Soorujkooor did not return to her husband until fifteen months after he had been seated on the Gadec. Taking into con-

sideration the whole of the evidence bearing on this point, I should think this event did not occur before Ramsing had been seated on the Gadde seven or eight months, and not later than twelve or fourteen months after the latter event. In the absence of all written evidence, it is impossible, when the accounts of different persons are so different, to pretend to fix the exact time of her return; it is necessary, however, particularly to notice, that it did not take place, as might be naturally expected, immediately after his accession to power. Eleven persons declare that they are positively certain that Ramsing did not go himself to Mandwa to bring his wife to Rajpeepla, all declaring that they recollect his going to seize Salum Jumadar, but that they are certain that neither Soorujkoo nor Purtaub Sing returned with him on that occasion. Two of these state that they were in Nandod at the time, and saw Ramsing on his return.

* F, Nos. 4 and 7.

Two* others state that they never heard that they returned with Ramsing at the time alluded to; one of them

adding that he was in the service of Ramsing at the time. Three state that

† F, No. 19.

they have heard that they did not return, and one† only corroborates Soorujkoo's own statement that they both

left Mandwa on the same day, but returned by different routes to Rajpeepla. From the above I have not a doubt but that (according to the statement of Huttysing Chowra and many others) Soorujkoo did not return with her husband when the latter did, after the seizure of Salum Jumadar, but that persons were sent for her subsequent to that event. Only three persons were able to give any reply to the 8th question; one of them replying in the affirmative, and stating that Soorujkoo demanded Bhandaree on account of Purtaub Sing, the other two stating that they heard Bhandaree was demanded by her, but they do not know on what account. This cannot, therefore, be considered much additional proof that Bhandaree was actually demanded by her.

67. The 9th question requires no particular remark, but was merely put to learn the accuracy of Soorujkoo's statement (or the contrary) on the subject to which it relates. There is not, however, any doubt but that the Chandla ceremony was performed, as I have examined the Wussawa Bheel whose hereditary right it is to perform it, and he declares that it was performed by his father, who is now dead, and that he himself was one of those present at its performance, and knows that the customary donations were made by Ramsing at the time to his father. Soorujkoo's statement on this point, like most of those she has made, is incorrect.

68. The 10th question was put with a view of ascertaining whether Ramsing, during the time he sat on the Gadde, was his own master, or governed by his Karbarees.* This is the only point in which the persons to whom the questions were put almost unanimously agree, as they mostly replied that he was under the authority of his Karbarees, the chief of whom was in the first

instance Salum Jumadar, and after him Kishundas Bukshee and Moedeen Jumadar. On this point no doubt can be entertained, as, independent of the above evidence, the debauched habits and character of the Raja readily induce us to believe that such was the case.

69. The 11th question relates to the letter Narsing states he received from Ramsing, a few days before the latter's death, requesting him to come to Rajpepla and take charge of the Government, and acknowledging that Purtaub Sing was not his own son. Much additional evidence to substantiate this point has not been obtained, as only four persons replied that they heard such was the case. The Karbaree of Narsing being called upon to produce the letter, informed me his master had lost it, in the struggles he made to recover his just rights, together with the greater part of his other property. This point, therefore, must still rest upon the evidence of Amunkoorbaee, one of Ramsing's surviving wives. The evidence is remarked upon in the 21st para. of my former letter, in which it will be observed she states that her husband informed her that he had written a letter to the above effect to Narsing. The 12th question needs no observation, as it did not elicit any additional information on the subject, which was the object for which it was put.

70. The 13th and last question was put to learn the individual opinion of each person as to which of the two candidates is the legitimate Chieftain of Rajpepla, and I could not persuade some of the persons to reply to this question. Of those, however, who did, no less than seventeen gave their votes

* F. Nos. 12, 14, 25,
29, 30, 44, 48.

decidedly in favour of Narsing, and seven* others, from their manner, and the indirect answers† they gave, I could plainly perceive were only deterred from the fear of sustaining injury, from delivering their sentiments in his favour. Only five† persons gave their voice in favour of Purtaub Sing, one† of these stating that such was his opinion because he had already sat on the Gadee, and the rest‡ because he was brought up by Ramsing as his son. Another§ person, from his indirect answer, may be considered to be on the same side. Of the remainder, I consider six|| to be perfectly neutral, but I could not discover what were the real opinions of the others. It is needless to observe how greatly the above account must be considered in favour of Narsing.

† F, No. 33.

‡ F, Nos. 47, 50, 52,
53.

§ F, No. 39.

|| F, Nos. 38, 42, 45,
46, 54, 55.

71. The 7th enclosure, marked G, contains the answers of forty-one persons to the last of the thirteen questions I have already remarked upon. This was put, in order to ascertain the feeling amongst the Bheels and lower orders, upon the dispute now pending. It will be observed,● that the generality of the persons included in this enclosure are Wussawas, or the head Bheels of each village from which they were summoned, and as their opinion may

fairly be considered as that of the inferior Bheels who are under their respective dominion and control, I shall only further remark that the two first persons on the list are Tunna Wussawa, cousin to Rejunjee Wussawa, and Eduljee Parsee, the Karbarce of the latter. The former on the part of himself, and the latter on the part of his master, replied that they considered Narsing as their proper Chieftain, and that both themselves and followers would obey him. Of the remainder only six give their votes in favour of Purtaub Sing; the others, with the exception of one who considers both to be his masters, all deciding without hesitation in Narsing's favour. One of the latter gives an account of what Ramsing said to him on one occasion when he (the deponent) went to Rajpeepla to pay his revenue, declaring that the Raja then told him that Purtaub Sing was not his son, but that of another person.

72. I am now come to the 8th and last enclosure, marked II, containing the evidence of a few persons called before me for the purpose of being examined upon particular facts and circumstances which the situation of the several deponents rendered it probable they might be acquainted with. The three first depositions are those of persons who were living in houses close to that of Dair Shunker's when Soorujkooor escaped from Nandod to Mandwa. They all three declare they never heard that she was in a state of pregnancy at the time. The first witness was formerly in the service of Salum Jumadar, and Dair Shunker (the person in whose house Ramsing and Soorujkooor were living at the time the former was put in confinement) was uncle to the deponent. He deposes that he accompanied his master when Ramsing decoyed him to Mandwa for the purpose of effecting his seizure, and is positive that neither Soorujkooor nor Purtaub Sing accompanied Ramsing when he returned to Rajpeepla after having accomplished the object of his visit to Mandwa. This deponent was in the service of Ajebsing when the news was brought to Rajpeepla of Soorujkooor having been delivered of a son, and is positive that Ajebsing did not distribute sugar, &c. &c. on the event. The 2nd witness states that his women were constantly going to visit Soorujkooor when she was living in the house of Dair Shunker, and from them he understood that she was ten or thirteen years old at that time. The third deponent states that she was only eleven or twelve years old, and corroborates the statement of the first witness that neither Soorujkooor nor the boy returned with Ramsing to Rajpeepla after the seizure of Salum Jumadar. The evidence of the three persons must be considered important, as they could have had no time to prepare the same stories, as they had no warning beforehand that they would be examined on the subject.

73. The five next depositions are those of five Rajpoots, inhabitants of the village of Nowpoora, four of whom were relations to the late Raja Ramsing. Their evidence only strengthens that already produced by Narsing, proving the general feeling in their own village (when the news arrived of

Soorujkoo having been delivered of a son) to have been that it was a trick made to save Ramsing's life. One of them deposes that he knows that Ramsing wrote a letter a short time before his death, requesting Narsing to come and take charge of the government of Rajpeepla, but the latter was afraid to come. He states two causes for Ramsing behaving in the manner he did to Purtaub Sing; first, because he saved the Raja's life, and second, because the Raja was under the authority of his Karbaree and obliged to act as he (the Karbaree) pleased. He adds, however, that the Raja did not always treat him kindly, but was often angry with the boy, asking who he was? and such like expressions in allusion to his birth.

74. The next deposition is that of a Rajpoot living in Jubboogaum, a village in the Oodepoor Purguna. This deponent was a nephew of Jyesing Rana, and fully corroborates the testimony of the other relations of Jyesing as to Purtaub Sing being the son of his (the deponent's) uncle, which was frequently told to the deponent by his mother and an elder brother. Thus, therefore, has not only Jyesing himself confessed the fact of his having given his son to Soorujkoo, but his testimony is confirmed by that of his daughter Rouba, of his son-in-law Pharsing, of his three nephews Kussool Sing, Ham-mund Rana, and Scombawa Sooruttea, and of his cousin Soom Rana. The evidence of these persons alone would be sufficient to prove the legitimacy of Narsing's claims, as, in giving it, they must be considered to have acted in direct opposition to their own interests, considered in a worldly point of view, which it is natural to be supposed would be forwarded by the advancement of their relation, Purtaub Sing.

75. The two following depositions are very important, being those of two persons who were Mooledars, or domestics, of Ajebsing's, at the time the news was brought to Rajpeepla of Soorujkoo having been delivered of a son. Their evidence proves beyond doubt what was the opinion of Ajebsing on the subject, as the latter would not permit the Bramin who was the bearer of the news to come into his presence, and according to the statement of one of them, Ramsing himself acknowledged it was false, as he had had no previous connection with his wife. This person likewise states that Ajebsing sent a Rajpoot to Mandwa for the purpose of making inquiries on the subject, who returned bringing the information that Soorujkoo had procured the son of Jyesing Rana, to whom she had given 500 rupees, and 120 Coombas of land to be enjoyed by him and his heirs for ever.

76. The three next depositions are those of three inhabitants of the village of Kunote, the one at which Soorujkoo states she halted a short time when she was on her return to her husband at Rajpeepla. I do not think that any doubt can be entertained that Soorujkoo is guilty of a falsehood in stating that she returned with her husband from Mandwa after the latter had seized

Salum Jumadar. The evidence of these three persons tends to confirm the above opinion. It is necessary to observe, that the person at whose house Soorujkoor states she took some refreshment at Kunote, is the same alluded to by Huttysing Chowra, but called by the latter Purtum Boodena, and by the former Bhadoor. I have likewise the honour to forward a letter I have received from Huttysing, in reply to one I wrote to him desiring more particular information on this subject, which is very satisfactory. The following deposition is that of the person alluded to in the 40th para. of this letter, and having been already observed upon, needs no further remark.

77. The next deposition is that of Abdullah Khan, a Jumadar in the service of Narsing. This refers to a settlement which Purtaub Sing states he made with Narsing when the Bhow came to Rajpeepla in Samvut 1871, and here it is necessary briefly to remark upon the two accounts given to me by the two Karbarees of Narsing and Purtaub Sing regarding the point. Purvoodas, the Karbaree of the former, gives the following explanation:—Narsing was at Soolpaur, a place of religious sanctity, situated on the banks of the Nerbudda, and his army, under the command of Abdullah Jumadar, was at the village of Gunta, in the Kuntall Purguna, about 30 miles from the former place. When Abdullah was separated from Narsing, in consonance with the custom of the country, he had a number of envelopes of letters bearing the Raja's seal given to him. Abdullah having written for more to his master, the latter sent a man to Gunta from Soolpaur, who, however, was plundered by Morad Jumadar's people, and Morad obtained possession of the envelopes which he was carrying to Abdullah Jumadar. When the Bhow came to Roond, Morad Jumadar thought it likely that the Gaekwar Government would take possession of the country, and that he (Morad) would be dismissed. He therefore endeavoured to make a settlement with Abdullah Jumadar of the quarrel existing between their respective masters. In this, however, he failed, but wrote letters to Captain Carnac, the Gaekwar Government, and the Bhow, falsely asserting that the quarrel had been adjusted, and enclosed them in the envelopes he had obtained in the manner before stated, bearing the seal of his master Narsing.

78. Such is the story of Narsing, which is so far strengthened by its being the immemorial custom of the Rajas of Rajpeepla to entrust persons of confidence with the blank covers of letters bearing their seals when sent on any particular service, or absent from the seat of Government. I in the first instance desired Huswaree, the Karbaree of the opposite party, to produce the original settlement entered into by Narsing and his master, which however he confessed himself unable to do, and gave the following improbable relation of the affair. He states that when the Bhow arrived at Chanode, he wrote a letter to Soorujkoor, requesting her to meet him for the purpose of settling the dispute. A person by name Sidhee Naseer came to the Ranee at Nandod

from Narsing, who promised to Morad Jumadar, on the part of his master, to do everything that she (the Ranee) wished ; but that she ought not to go to the Bhow, but that he would return to Narsing and bring his terms. Sooruj-koor, in opposition to the wishes of her Jumadar, refused to consent to this proposal, but proceeded to the Bhow at Roond. A negotiation, however, was afterwards effected by Morad Jumadar on the part of Purtaub Sing, and by Abdullah Jumadar on the part of Narsing. The papers containing the terms of the settlements were given by the two Jumadars to one another, viz. Morad received the terms which Abdullah had subscribed to, and *vice versâ*, after which the letters in question were despatched to Roond and Baroda.

79. The improbability of the above story is so evident, that I have not considered it necessary to examine any other persons on the subject but Abdullah Jumadar, the person who is said to have negotiated on the part of Narsing. On his statement I shall only observe, that he positively denies that any settlement was concluded, although Morad Jumadar attempted to make one, and he confirms in toto the statement which I have already detailed as having been given by Narsing relative to the transaction. The statements of the Bhow relative to his proceedings in Rajpeepla, tend to prove the statement of Narsing to be correct, as he therein states (alluding to the letters he had received from Purtaub Sing and Narsing) : "this villainy has been planned and executed by the Jumadars Morad, Abdullah, and Moeedeen." Wurnasec, upon being asked whether it was customary for persons making any negotiation on the part of two Governments, to keep the papers, containing the terms upon which the negotiation is concluded, themselves, instead of delivering them to their respective Governments, could give no reply, and was placed in the same predicament when I further asked him what was the reason the original documents were not produced when the Bhow wrote back in reply to the letters he had received, purporting to be from Narsing and Purtaub Sing, that he must see the original papers containing the terms upon which their reconciliation had been effected duly sealed by both parties, at the same time expressing his surprise at so sudden an adjustment of their differences after fighting and quarrelling with one another for the space of five years. This transaction, therefore, must be considered as another instance, in addition to those I have already pointed out, of the illegal measures either Purtaub Sing or his adherents have at different times resorted to in endeavouring to establish the urgent claims of the former to the Gadee of Rajpeepla.

80. The two remaining numbers of this enclosure are the translations of the examination of Soorujkoor and Byesunker Josee on the subject of the former's birth papers. These I did not receive until after I had written the quarter part of this letter, as I purposely delayed making an application that she might be examined on the subject, in the expectation that my previous inquiries might

enable me to find out whether she would have recourse to deceit and fraud to endeavour to prove that she was older than she really was at the time of her marriage to Ramsing.

81. As soon as I had learnt the substance of Soorujkoor's statement, I thought it very suspicious, for if a person can form any opinion upon the manner in which the contents of any document was given by making a translation of it, I should conceive Soorujkoor's replies to the question put to her on the subject must have been given in a very evasive and equivocating manner. On reference to the deposition of Mootuma Omualkoorbacc, the grandmother of Soorujkoor, it will be observed, that when interrogated as to the time of Soorujkoor's birth, she replied she did not know, but that she (Soorujkoor) had her birth papers with her at Baroda. This answer must naturally excite our suspicion as to the truth of the story Soorujkoor now tells us of the fate of her birth papers, as it is difficult to imagine that her grandmother would have given the above answer had the papers in question been really lost when Chanood was plundered by Kanojee, an event which, had it really happened, must have been known by her grandmother. The circumstances of her not particularly stating she had a *Vurshphul*, but answering in such terms as to make one uncertain whether she had one or not, and of her afterwards stating there was one in the box, and, when her Mehta was sent to search for it, his returning and stating there was none to be found, are both calculated to excite our suspicion that all is not right, as it is almost impossible to suppose she should be so totally ignorant where she had deposited a document to which the superstition of the natives leads them to place so much reliance upon the truth and accuracy with which it points out the good and bad luck which will befall the individual to which it belongs. It may likewise be observed that it is not likely she should allow such a document to be kept by any other person but herself, as it could relate only to herself—a remark I make from the fact of her Karbaree having produced a *Vurshphul* belonging to her, which was in his possession.

82. Before I received the deposition of Byesunker, I inquired of Wurnasee what had become of Soorujkoor's birth papers? He related the same story as that contained in Soorujkoor's deposition, assigning as the cause of the property in question being deposited in the Bramin's house, that they thought it would be more secure there than if in Mandwa, as Chanood being a place of great religious sanctity, they thought it would on that account be respected by Kanojee, and would not be plundered by him. Wurnasee, however, was unable to inform me the name of the Bramin in whose house it was deposited. He stated that from that time Soorujkoor had no paper in her possession which was written at the time of her birth, but that Byesunker Josee draws out her *Vurshphul*, which he thinks has been drawn out every year of her life. He had the *Vurshphul*, he informed me, of last year, in his possession, but those

of former years were not now in existence, as it is customary, when a new one is drawn out, that the old one should be thrown into the sacred stream of the Nerbudda.

83. The Karbar.e of Purtaub Sing having produced a Vurshphul purporting to be that of Soorujkoor for the last year, or Sumvut 1856, it becomes necessary for me to state such particulars regarding this document as the abstruseness of the subject has admitted my becoming acquainted with, in order to show that it is not without substantial grounds that I have formed the opinion that the paper produced has been purposely drawn out with a view of fixing the time of Soorujkoor's birth at an earlier period than it actually took place.

84. The literal meaning of Vurshphul is the fruit of the year, and is so termed from its being a document drawn out by Hindoo Josees, or astrologers, pointing out the good or bad fortune which will befall any person in the course of the year. In order to enable the Josee to make the proper calculations, it is absolutely necessary that he should see the *Junum Ueksher* of the person applying to have his Vurshphul drawn out. The literal meaning of *Junum Ueksher* is letters of birth, and is a paper drawn out at Hindoo births, specifying not only the year, month, and day, but even the minute and moment at which the person is born. From the above data the Josee is enabled to draw out the *Junum Koondulee* (circle of birth), which is a circle divided into twelve divisions, on which are pointed out the position of the planets at the time of the person's birth. Another circle is likewise made, called *Chuleet*, in which is shown the changes of position of the planets with reference to those marked down in the *Junum Koondulee*, which are discovered by a nicer and more difficult mode of calculation; and it is from certain computations deduced from these two circles, that the Josee pretends to be able to predict whether a person will be fortunate or the reverse through life. Many Hindoos, through poverty or some other cause, content themselves with keeping this document, and building their future hopes upon it alone; but others, who wish to have a more intimate or nearer view of futurity, have their Vurshphul drawn out, in which, if they choose, the Josee pretends to point out whatever good or evil will happen to them throughout the year, and the month and day it will occur. It is always customary to commence the Vurshphul by inserting the data from which it is drawn out, viz. the *Junum Ueksher*, the *Junum Koondulee*, and the *Chuleet*, and in the former is specified the name and age of the person whose Vurshphul it is, after which follow the predictions of good and bad luck before alluded to, and at the conclusion the commencement of the Vurshphul for the following year, which ought likewise to contain the name of the person, as well as the particular year of the person's life which will then be commenced.

85. The accompanying deposition of Josee Niyasunker, which was taken on the subject of the Vurshphul given to me by Wurnasee prior to my

receiving the examination of Byesunker, and the Junum Ucksher that accompanied it, will show that neither the name of the year, month, day, &c. at which the person was born is mentioned throughout the document, and that he is unable to state whether the first circle is intended for the Junum Koondulee or the Vursh Koondulee, as it is not mentioned which it is. It is necessary to observe that if it was meant for the former, the words *Junum Sugu* ought to have been written over it, whereas the words *Joobh Sugu*, or good sign, are written, from which the Josee was not able to find out what it was meant for. According to the Vurshphul, the age of the person to whom it relates is thirty-four years, and something more than nine months; but the Josee considers the document suspicious from the informalities above mentioned.

86. It is only requisite to make an observation upon the deposition of Byesunker, and that is regarding the statement he has given as to the manner in which he became possessed of the Junum Ucksher, from which he states he has made Soorujkoo's Vurshphul annually from the time that has passed since Ramsing was first seated on the Gadee. He states that it was a copy of the original paper drawn out at the time of her birth, which copy was made at the time of Ramsing's being seated on the Gadee. How can this, however, be the truth, when, according to Soorujkoo's statement, and that of her Karbaree, all her birth papers were lost prior to the event he alludes to, viz. at the time Kanojee attacked and plundered the town of Chanood? Whence therefore it could have been taken, is involved in mystery.

87. Regarding the Junum Ucksher, he has produced another Josee of Nandod, by name Jeevanjee, who has given me the following information. The person to whom it refers was born in Sumvut 1842, Wyslak Shood the 7th, or A. D. 1786, which makes the person's age at the present time thirty-four years and ten months. Were this a copy of the original Junum Ucksher drawn out at the time of Soorujkoo's birth, it would satisfactorily establish the truth of her statement that at the time of her marriage with Ramsing she was fourteen or fifteen years old, and thus get rid of one great fact now against her, that at the time of Purtaub Sing's birth she was too young to become a mother. Independent, however, of the suspicious circumstances I have already alluded to as attaching to the Vurshphul produced, the following will greatly strengthen them.

88. In the *Junum Ucksher* produced by the Josee of Ahmedabad, the name of the person to whom it belongs is not written, which is never omitted. Unless, therefore, an explanation can be given why so important a part of the document has been omitted, its genuineness must be considered very doubtful. Again, we learn from the paper produced by Byesunker, that the *Rass*, or sign of the Zodiac, in which the person to whom it belongs was born, was *Kerhh*, or Cancer. It is the *Rass* in which a person is born that decides the

letter with which his name should commence, and the Josee upon being directed to inform me what letter commenced the name of the person to whom the paper in question belongs, replied that it must begin with the cerebral ॐ (*d*). He at the same time observed that in some cases persons from superstitious motives selected some other Rass than the one in which the infant was actually born, which of course changed the first letter of its name, but added that in all cases where such a change was made, it was invariably the custom to mention the circumstance in the *Junum Ucksher*. The same Josee having been requested to state whether the Vurshphul produced by Wurnasee was drawn out in the usual manner, and to calculate whether it was drawn out from the paper sent by Byesunker, replied it was not drawn out according to custom, but that it was calculated from the paper I had shown him. He, however, acknowledged that he suspected the truth of the paper, and gave as additional reasons to those I have already mentioned as given by the other Josee for such suspicions, that the Chulcet circle in the Vurshphul was not filled up according to custom, and that the name and age of the person to whom it belonged was neither inserted at the beginning nor end of the document, when they ought to have been at both.

89. Having in the course of the above examination discovered that the Vurshphul given me by Wurnasee was not for the last year, but for Sumvut 1875, I requested him to explain how he had made such a mistake. He at first positively asserted that I had made the mistake, and declared that the document he had given me was the very last Byesunker had made, and that it could not be the one for 1875, which must have been thrown into the Nerbudda. Upon being requested to look at the paper, and then to state who had made the mistake, his guilty countenance was covered with confusion and shame, and he acknowledged that he was wrong. I could hardly, I must confess, suppress feelings of indignation and resentment at the impudence of the man in endeavouring to impose upon me by telling me such infamous, and as they may be termed, gratuitous lies. The fact is, it is not customary that the old Vurshphul should be thrown into the Nerbudda every year, but they are generally treasured up during the life-time of the person and thrown into the river after his death.

90. It is, I think, therefore, sufficiently evident that we cannot be satisfied that the papers in question show the real time of Soorujkoor's birth. Regarding the paper produced by Byesunker, it may either have been purposely framed for the occasion (which it could easily have been done by some Josee calculating backwards to the year 1842), or it may belong to some other person, from whom Soorujkoor may have procured it.

91. My letter to your address dated 22nd of December last, informed you of the refusal of Jeytsing, the Rana of Mandwa, to give evidence upon the

present dispute; and I have now to report a similar line of conduct pursued by another person, whose situation must have made her acquainted with the full particulars of the whole story. The person I allude to is a female residing in Mandwa, by name Myer Sonder Koor; she was the wife of Mahdeo Sing, and was one of the principal persons, I am informed, who suggested and carried into effect the trick of Soorujkoo being delivered of a son. Notwithstanding the remonstrances of Purtaub Sing's party against his abandoning his cause at such a critical juncture, added to my own request that she would be examined, she has declined without assigning any cause for so doing. These two refusals, coming from such persons as they do, complete the strong chain of evidence against the pretensions of Purtaub Sing to the Chieftainship of Rajpeepla.

92. I have at length arrived at the termination of my remarks upon the evidence produced by both parties, as well as that obtained by myself to ascertain and decide upon the pretensions of each. These have been given at great length, and perhaps with greater freedom, than the subject warranted. My object has been to place the case in as clear a point of view as I was able, and I therefore trust I shall not be considered as having indulged in useless observations, or made more than the importance of the case at issue demanded.

93. In conclusion, and with reference to the ten particular points I proposed as the principal subjects for investigation in the 4th para. of this letter, it is ascertained that Soorujkoo was married in Sumvut 1856, or A. D. 1800, to Rausing, the son of the Raja of Rajpeepla. That at the time of her marriage she was very young, and although it is not possible exactly to state what her age was at the time, we have every reason to believe that she could not have been more than eleven or twelve years old, and probably younger. That about seven months after her marriage she accompanied her husband to Nandod, where she lived with him for five or six months, after which she escaped to Mandwa, in consequence of her husband being put in confinement by his father Ajebsing. That about seven months after her return, she circulated the fictitious report that she had been delivered of a son, having the humane and praiseworthy object in view that by so doing she would preserve the life of her husband, considering that his enemies would be deterred from putting him to death if he had a son to succeed to all the rights of his father. That instead, however, of her having been delivered of a son, she purchased, by the assistance of her father, the Rana of Mandwa, the son of Jyesing, a Geerasia, residing in the village of Suttasanidh. That to carry off the plot, the ceremonies usually performed at the birth of a child were observed in the father's house; and if the Panchmasa and Sutmasa ceremonies were performed, they were only the commencement of a trick she already contemplated making. That the general feeling of the country in the neighbourhood of Mandwa and throughout the

whole of Rajpeepla, when the event was reported to have taken place, was that it was a trick made with the object before mentioned in view, as people knew her to be too young to become a mother, and had never heard of her being in a state of pregnancy when she left her husband at Nandod. That the same opinion of the story was entertained by Ajebsing and his Court, and that the former sent a Rajpoot to Mandwa, who returned having ascertained that it was false. That Soorujkoor did not return to her husband for some months after he had been seated on the Gadee, and that, notwithstanding Ramsing visited Mandwa about four months after his release from confinement, for the purpose of seizing a powerful Jumadar in his service, neither Soorujkoor nor the boy she had procured returned with Ramsing to Rajpeepla after he had effected the seizure of the person above alluded to. That when Ramsing did send for Soorujkoor and the boy, he did so from the advice of his Karbaree, and that Soorujkoor would not return before she had obtained Bhandaree from her husband for her personal safety. That although Ramsing did not at all times treat Purtaub Sing as his son, and specific instances are given of his making allusions to his (Purtaub Sing's) real origin, yet, generally speaking, he conducted himself like a parent towards him. That for such conduct three reasons are assigned, which, singly or combined, are sufficient to account for it on the supposition that he himself knew that the boy was not his own; 1st, he acted so from the gratitude he owed the boy for having been instrumental in saving his life when in confinement; 2ndly, because he was not his own master, but was the greater part of his reign governed entirely by his Karbarees, who advised him and perhaps constrained him to act towards Purtaub Sing in the manner he did; and 3rdly, he might have been influenced by the apprehension he entertained that some one of Narsing's party might attempt to poison him, which the cherishing of Purtaub Sing as his son would prevent, in the same manner as Soorujkoor thought in the first instance her purchasing the boy would prevent her husband being put to death.

It is further ascertained from the evidence, that although Narsing is unable to produce the letter he states he received from Ramsing a short time before the latter's death, acknowledging that Purtaub Sing was not his (Ramsing's) son, yet there are some, though not positive grounds to believe that such a letter was actually written. That the letter given to Narsing in the year 1819 by certain Zumdars and other inhabitants of the Nandod Purguna was given willingly by the persons whose names are affixed, and that the paper produced by the opposite party, purporting to be signed by some of those whose names are written in the above letter, and stating that the former were obtained by force, is a gross and infamous forgery made for the occasion. That the settlement which was mentioned to have taken place (in several letters sent to Baroda in 1815) between Narsing and Purtaub Sing was never

concluded, but that the letters in question stating that the two had become reconciled were forged by Morad Jumadar, who wanted to ensure his not being dismissed from the employment he then had, by causing the Gaekwar troops to quit Rajpeepla.

That the letter produced by Narsing, purporting to be from Jyeesing Rana, in which the latter confesses he sold his son to the Ranees Soorujkoo, is indisputably found to be genuine, and to have been obtained in a fair and proper manner. That many forgeries have been discovered in the signatures affixed to the ten letters given to Mr. Williams by Purtaub Sing, purporting to be from certain inhabitants of Rajpeepla, giving evidence in his favour. That the general and popular feeling of all classes of persons, both high and low, rich and poor, living in Rajpeepla, is decidedly in favour of Narsing; and consequently, that from all the above circumstances combined, with many others I have already enumerated in this letter, it is satisfactorily proved that Narsing's eldest son is the legitimate Chieftain of Rajpeepla, to which Purtaub Sing has no legal pretensions whatever, being the son of an obscure Geerasia, and not, as he pretends to be, the son of Ramsing the late Raja of the country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

Camp Nandod, 26th February 1821.

First Assistant Resident.

F.

Queries put to some of the most respectable inhabitants of Nandod and other places, on the subject of the dispute regarding the succession to the Gadee of Rajpeepla.*

- Qu. 1.—Do you know what was the age of Soorujkoo when she was married to the late Raja Ramsing?
- „ 2.—Do you know how long it was after the marriage of Soorujkoo that it was reported she had been delivered of a son.
- „ 3.—Did you ever hear of Soorujkoo being pregnant before she escaped, leaving her husband in confinement at Nandod?
- „ 4.—Did you ever hear of the usual ceremonies being performed in the fifth and seventh months of Soorujkoo's pregnancy?
- „ 5.—What was the general feeling in the place you reside at, when the news arrived of Soorujkoo being delivered of a son?
- „ 6.—Do you know how long it was after Ramsing was seated on the Gadee that Soorujkoo returned from Mandwa?

* Alluded to at pages 454 to 457 of this Selection.

- Qu. 7.**—Can you positively state whether Ramsing went himself to Mandwa for the express purpose of bringing his wife Soorujkoo to Rajpeepla, or whether he deputed some person or persons for that purpose?
- „ **8.**—Do you know whether Soorujkoo demanded Bhandaree from her husband on her return; and if she did, do you know what was her reason for deeming such necessary?
- „ **9.**—Do you know whether the Chandla ceremony was performed by a Kotelah Bheel upon the accession of Ramsing to the Gadee of Rajpeepla?
- „ **10.**—Can you inform me whether Ramsing was his own master during the time he sat on the Gadee, and if not, by whom was he principally governed?
- „ **11.**—Did you ever hear of Ramsing having written a letter to Narsing, a few days before his death, acknowledging that Purtaub Sing was not his son, and requesting him to come to Rajpeepla for the purpose of taking charge of the Government?
- „ **12.**—Can you inform me of any fact or circumstance which may have come to your knowledge relating to the present disputes, likely to throw light on the subject?
- „ **13.**—Who, in your opinion, is the legitimate Chieftain of Rajpeepla?

F No. 1.

Answers given to the thirteen queries, by Jeewaram Bhut, Owdech Bramin, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 15th December 1820.

This person replied in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12, and that he does not know anything of the points adverted to in questions 2, 8, and 9. To the remaining queries he gives the following answers:—

Ans. to No. 1.—He never saw Soorujkoo, but people said she was eleven or twelve years old.

„ „ **5.**—He was in Nandod at the time Soorujkoo was said to have been delivered of Purtaub Sing, and all people said it was a trick to save the life of Ramsing, who was in confinement at Nandod, and that Soorujkoo was too young to bear a child.

„ „ **6.**—It was about two years.

„ „ **7.**—Ramsing did not go himself, but sent persons to bring her to Rajpeepla. The deponent recollects Ramsing proceeding to Mandwa five or six months after he had been seated on the Gadee; not however to bring Soorujkoo, but to seize Salum

Jumadar. The deponent is certain of this, as he was in Nandod at the time. Ramsing was absent about fifteen days, when he returned alone, and the deponent saw him when he returned. He did not bring Purtaub Sing with him.

Ans. to No. 10.—He was under the authority of Kishundas Bukshee and Moecdeen Jumadar, who acted as they liked.

„ „ 11.—He heard that Ramsing wished to write a letter to Narsing, but does not know whether he actually did so or not.

„ „ 13.—Narsing is the legitimate Raja, because he is the son of Ajebsing. Purtaub Sing's mother knows who his father is.

(Signed in Guzeratee) PUNDIA JEEWARAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 2.

Answers given to the same questions, by Hurreebhye, Bramin, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 15th December 1820.

This person replied in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12, and that he does not know anything regarding the points alluded to in questions 1, 2, 8, and 9. He would not reply to the last question, but was evidently in favour of Narsing.

Ans. to No. 5.—Sugar, &c. was distributed on the occasion, but people thought it was a trick to save Ramsing's life.

„ „ 6.—He sent for Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing when the latter was about two years old.

„ „ 7.—When Ajebsing died, Salum Jumadar had so much power from his having released Ramsing from confinement and placed him on the Gadec, that if he (Salum) told him to get up, he would do so. About four months, therefore, after Ramsing had sat on the Gadec, he decoyed the Jumadar to Mandwa, under the pretence of wishing to perform a ceremony there, and having arrived there he seized him. Ramsing returned alone, and did not bring Soorujkoor nor Purtaub Sing with him.

„ „ 10.—Kishundas Bukshee managed everything as he pleased. Ramsing was generally in a state of intoxication.

„ „ 11.—People say that he did write a letter to Narsing stating that if he would come to Rajpeepla he would give him charge of the Government.

(Signed in Guzeratee) PUNDIA HURREEBHYE BHAERAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 3.

Answers given to the same queries, by Bugwan Parich, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 15th December 1820.

This person replies in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12, and that he knows nothing of the points alluded to in queries 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 11; he would not reply to the last question.

Ans. to No. 7.—Ramsing went to Mandwa for the purpose of seizing Salum Jumadar. He remained at Mandwa eighteen days, and the deponent has heard that when he returned he brought Purtaub Sing with him; but he does not know whether Soorujkoor came with him.

„ „ 10.—Kishundas had great power.

(Signed in Guzeratee) BUGWANDAS NARAINDAS.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 4.

Answers given to the same questions, by Shunkurdas, a Mehta in the employment of Bucheb Jumadar, on the 15th December 1820.

This person answers in the negative to questions 3, 4, 11, and 12, and does not know anything regarding Nos. 2, 5, 8, and 9.

Ans. to No. 1.—He heard her age was from eleven to thirteen.

„ „ 6.—Ramsing sent persons for her, but deponent does not know how long after he sat on the Gadee that he did so.

„ „ 7.—He never heard that Ramsing went himself to Mandwa to bring his wife to Rajpeepla. Deponent was in the service of the Raja at the time, and thinks he would have known it if he had gone to Mandwa.

„ „ 10.—Kishundas Bukshee did as he pleased. Salum Jumadar was decoyed to Mandwa, where he was seized by Ramsing. Deponent does not know whether Soorujkoor returned to Rajpeepla when Ramsing did.

„ „ 13.—After the death of Ramsing, Kishundas Bukshee placed Purtaub Sing on the Gadee, and Narsing commenced his disputes. Will not answer to the question directly.

(Signed in Guzeratee) MEHTA SHUNKURDAS.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 5.

Answers given to the same queries, by Purbhoo Shait, principal Banyan of Nandod, on the 15th December 1820.

This person replied in the negative to questions 3, 4, 11, and 12, and that he knows nothing regarding Nos. 1, 2, 6, 8, and 9.

Ans. to No. 5.—There were two opinions; one that it was a trick, the other that it was the truth.

„ „ 7.—The Raja himself went to Mandwa to bring Purtaub Sing to Rajpeepla. Salum Jumadar accompanied him, and was seized there. Deponent does not know whether Sooruj-koor returned with Ramsing, but Purtaub Sing did.

„ „ 10.—Ramsing was his own master for a short time after he seized Salum Jumadar, but he was subsequently governed by Kishundas Bukshee, Myral Bhow, &c. &c.

„ „ 13.—Does not know exactly, but all people say Purtaub Sing is false.

(Signed in Guzeratee) PURBHOODAS LUCKMEDAS.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No 6.

Answers given to the same queries, by Morardas Dasee, cloth merchant of Nandod, on the 15th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 9.—He has heard that it was performed at the usual time.

„ „ 13.—He thinks that Purtaub Sing is so because people say so.

This person answers Nos. 3, 4, and 12 in the negative, and the remainder that he does know anything regarding them.

(Signed in Guzeeratee) MORARDAS.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 7.

Answers given to the same queries, by Purbhoodas, grain weigher of Nandod, on the 15th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 7.—Never heard that Ramsing went himself to Mandwa.

„ „ 10.—He was under the authority of Salum Jumadar, and after his seizure, under that of Kishundas Bukshee.

He replies in the negative to queries 3, 4, and 12; to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) PURBHOODAS.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 8.

Answers given by Shawuckdas Parick, of Nandod, to the same queries, on the 15th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 2.—He thinks it was about five years after her marriage.

„ „ 6.—About six months.

„ „ 7.—He is certain that persons were sent for her, and that Ramsing did not go himself to Mandwa to bring his wife. This deponent, however, in the same breath states, that the Raja went himself to Mandwa six or eight months after he had been seated on the Gadee, to perform the ceremony called Bheda; he remained there four or five days, and then returned, bringing the Ranee and Purtaub Sing with him. He went to Mandwa for the purpose of seizing Salum Jumadar.

„ „ 10.—He was under the authority of Salum Jumadar in the first instance, and afterwards under that of Kishundas Bukshee.

This person replied in the negative to queries 1, 5, 8, 9, and 10, and to Nos. 3, 4, 11, and 12, that “he does not know”; but he would give no answer to No. 13.

(Signed in Guzeratee) SHAWUCKDAS JAGERDAS.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 9.

Answers given to the same queries, by Ragoonathdas, Banyan of Nandod, on the 15th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 5.—Does not know, as he was in prison at the time in Rajpeepla: he was confined by Ajebsing without any fault. Deponent does not know what Ramsing thought of the birth of Purtaub Sing, as he (the deponent) was confined in a separate apartment.

„ „ 10.—He was first under the authority of Salum Jumadar, and afterwards under that of Kishundas Bukshee.

He replies in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12, and to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) RAGOONATHDAS RYJEE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 10.

Answers given to the same queries, by Bapoo, Owdech Bramin, residing in Nandod, on the 15th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 5.—There were two opinions; some said it was true, and others that it was false.

„ „ 7.—Ramsing sent a man for Soorujkoor. Deponent recollects Ramsing going to Mandwa with Salum Jumadar, but he is certain that his wife did not return with him.

„ „ 10.—At first he was under the power of Salum Jumadar and afterwards under that of Kishundas Bukshee.

„ „ 11.—He has heard people say that such was the case.

„ „ 13.—Narsing, in the opinion of the deponent, is the proper Raja, as he knows him to be the true son of Ajebsing. The people of Mandwa know whether Purtaub Sing is true or false.

He replies in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12, and to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) BAPOO.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 11.

Answers given to the same queries, by Ootunram Bhut, residing in Nandod, on the 15th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 1.—He has heard she was twelve or thirteen years old at the time alluded to.

„ „ 3.—He heard so, but only from one person by name Putwa.

„ „ 5.—Deponent was very young at the time, but people considered that Purtaub Sing might have been born of Soorujkoor.

„ „ 6.—It was a year or a year and a half.

„ „ 7.—Ramsing did not go himself to Mandwa to fetch Soorujkoor, but sent a man for that purpose. Deponent recollects Ramsing going to Mandwa with Salum Jumadar, and his returning again after his seizure. This was seven or eight months after he had been seated on the Gadee, but neither Soorujkoor nor the boy returned with him.

„ „ 9.—He heard that it was.

„ „ 10.—He was first under the will of Salum Jumadar. A short time after his seizure he was his own master, but was finally governed entirely by Kishundas Bukshee.

He replies in the negative to questions 4 and 12, will not give any answer to No. 13, and to the remainder "he does not know."

(Signed in Guzeratee) BHUT OOTUMRAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 12.

Answers given to the same queries, by Kuroojee Shroff, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 15th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 1.—He has heard that she was thirteen or fourteen years old at the time alluded to.

" " 5.—People did not say anything because Ramsing was alive.

" " 7.—Deponent was in Baroda at the time, but has heard that Ramsing went to Mandwa, and, having seized Salum Jumadar at that place, he returned, bringing Soorujkoo and Purtaub Sing with him.

" " 8.—Deponent has heard that she did, but does not know whether she obtained it.

" " 10.—He was first under Salum Jumadar. After his seizure he was a short time his own master, but was afterwards entirely governed by Moeedeen Jumadar and Kishundas Bukshee.

" " 13.—Deponent does not know whether Purtaub Sing is true or false.

He replies in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12, and that he does not know the remainder.

(Signed in Guzeratee) KUROOJEE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 13.

Answers given to the same queries, by Kashiram Shastree, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 17th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 5.—He was at Nandod at the time. How could people talk of an affair concerning a Raja, whose subjects they were?

" " 7.—Ramsing went to Mandwa. Having seized Salum Jumadar there, he returned alone. Soorujkoo returned to him afterwards. He does not know how long afterwards, but he is positively certain they did not return together.

" " 10.—First governed by Salum Jumadar and afterwards by Kishundas Bukshee, the Raja had the nominal authority, but acted as they wished.

Ans. to No. 13.—People are divided in opinion. Deponent does not exactly know.

He replies in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12, and to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) KASHIRAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 14.

Answers to the same queries, by Doolubjee Josee, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 1.—Deponent never saw her, but when she was living at Nandod he heard she was very young.

„ „ 5.—People considered it was false, and that Soorujkoor had made the trick because her husband was in confinement.

„ „ 7.—Recollects Ramsing going to seize Salum Jumadar, but does not know whether Soorujkoor returned when he did.

„ „ 10.—Ramsing was Raja, but governed entirely by Kishundas Bukshee.

„ „ 13.—Will not give a direct answer, but evidently in favour of Narsing.

He replies in the negative to queries 3, 4, and 12, and to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) DOOLUBJEE RAGHOOJEE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 15.

Answers given to the same queries, by Pundrea Oomeeasunker, Sooduck Saharam Bramin, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 1.—He has heard ten or eleven years.

„ „ 2.—Two years after. Deponent has heard that, when Soorujkoor escaped, her mother Mooteema remained behind with Ramsing, and it was she who made up the story of Soorujkoor's pregnancy.

„ „ 5.—People said it was false, and considered it to be a trick.

„ „ 6.—About six or seven months after.

„ „ 7.—Deponent is positive the Raja did not go himself. He recollects Ramsing going to Mandwa with Salum Jumadar, but he is certain that neither Soorujkoor nor the boy returned

with him to Rajpeepla. Deponent was in Nandod at the time. Ramsing remained four or five days in Nandod, and then proceeded to Rajpeepla.

Ans. to No. 10.—Salum Jumadar was at first his master, and afterwards he was under the authority of Kishundas Bukshee.

„ „ 13.—He thinks Narsing is the proper Raja of the country.

He replies to queries 3, 4, and 12 in the negative, and to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) OOMEASUNKER MANSHARAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 16.

Answers given to the same queries, by Pandeea Ambasunker, Owleech Bramin, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 4.—Yes he did, but people then considered it to be a trick.

„ „ 5.—Some people said it was true, others that it was false; the general opinion was that it was false.

„ „ 6.—He thinks it was between one and two years after the event alluded to.

„ „ 7.—Ramsing did not go himself. It was Kishundas Bukshee who sent for her. Deponent recollects Ramsing going himself to Mandwa with Salum Jumadar, but is certain that neither Soorujkoor nor Purtaub Sing returned with him.

„ „ 10.—He was first entirely governed by Salum Jumadar, and afterwards equally so by Kishundas Bukshee.

„ „ 13.—All people think Narsing is the proper Raja, and so does the deponent.

He replies in the negative to queries 3 and 12, and to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) AMBASUNKER BHANJEE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 17.

Answers given to the same queries, by Shoocul Gowreesunker, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 5.—There were two opinions, but he does not know which was the most general one.

„ „ 7.—He does not know whether Ramsing went for Soorujkoor or not; recollects his going to Mandwa with Salum Jumadar;

and has heard that Soorujkoo and Purtaub Sing returned with him, but this he does not know for certain.

He replies to questions 3, 4, and 12 in the negative; will not give any answer to the last question; but to the remainder he replies "he does not know."

This deponent is a very young man.

(Signed in Guzeratee) SHOOCUL OOMERSUNKER.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 18.

Answers given to the same queries, by Pandeca Jewunram, Owdeech Suhersure Bramin, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 1.—He has heard that she was eleven or twelve years old at the time alluded to.

„ „ 2.—She was married in Sumvut 1856, and was reported to have been brought to bed of a son in Sumvut 1858.

„ „ 5.—People said Soorujkoo had bought the son of a Geerasia of Sutee Saonia, to save the life of Ramsing.

„ „ 6, 7, 9.—Does not know either of these points, as he had gone at that time on a pilgrimage to Benares.

„ „ 8.—Deponent has heard that she did, but does not know for what.

„ „ 10.—He was first governed by Salum Jumadar, and afterwards by Kishundas Bukshee. A third person, who is now dead, had a great deal of power for a short time; his name was Hurreebhye, a doctor.

„ „ 11.—He has heard that Ramsing wrote a letter to Narsing when he was unwell, but he does not know what were its contents.

„ „ 13.—All people consider that Narsing is the proper Raja, and so likewise does the deponent.

He replies in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12.

(Signed in Guzeratee) PANDEEA JEWUNRAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 19.

Answers given to the same questions, by Kashman Vyed, Owdeech Suhernac Bramin, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 7.—When Ramsing went to Mandwa with Salum Jumadar he returned to Nandod alone. Deponent has heard that

Soorujkoor went another road by Kanote on the same day, and that she and Ramsing arrived at Rajpeepla about the same day. Deponent did not see her.

Ans. to No. 9.—He has heard that it was.

„ „ 10.—Kishundas Bukshee had great power, and was the Karbaree.

„ „ 13.—He does not know. People do not like to give an opinion, as they think the Raj is gone.

He replies in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12, and to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) VYED KASHEORAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 20.

Answers given to the same questions, by Dabhye Josce, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 4.—He heard of the Sutinasa ceremony being performed, but he did not hear of the Punchmasa being performed.

„ „ 5.—Two opinions; one that it was true, and the other that it was false.

„ „ 6.—It was a year or a year and a half after.

„ „ 7.—Does not know whether the Raja went himself or sent a man to Mandwa. Deponent recollects his going to Mandwa with Salum Jumadar about four or five months after he had been seated on the Gadee.

„ „ 10.—He was first governed by Salum Jumadar, and afterwards by Kishundas Bukshee.

Answers queries 3 and 12 in the negative, and to the remainder (with the exception of the last, which he will not answer) he replies that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) DABHYE BANSUNKER.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 21.

Answers given to the same queries, by Dyaljee Veeas, Owdeech Suhersure Bramin, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 1.—He has heard she was eleven or twelve years old.

„ „ 2.—About two years afterwards.

„ „ 4.—He heard of the performance of both, but people thought it was a trick.

Ans. to No. 6.—Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing returned to Rajpeepla about a year or a year and a half after the seizure of Salum Jumadar.

„ „ 7.—He is positively certain that Soorujkoor did not return with Ramsing when the latter returned from Mandwa after having seized Salum Jumadar, and that Ramsing did not go himself to bring her. Deponent was in Nandod both at the time he went to Mandwa with Salum Jumadar and likewise when he returned.

„ „ 8.—Yes, on account of the boy Purtaub Sing.

„ „ 10.—He was first under Salum Jumadar, and afterwards acted according to the wishes of his Karbarees, Kishundas Bkshlee and Moeedeen Jumadar.

„ „ 13.—Most people consider that Narsing is the root and the proper Raja, and so does the deponent.

He replies in the negative to queries 3 and 12, and “does not know” to 9 and 11.

(Signed in Guzeratee) DYALJEE AVUL.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 22.

Answers given to the same queries, by Doolubjee Veeas Owdeech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 9.—He has heard that it was performed.

„ „ 10.—Kishundas was Karbaree, and Ramsing Raja; but the latter acted in conformity to the wishes of the former.

This person replies in the negative to queries 3, 4, 11, and 12, and to the remainder that “he does not know,” with the exception of the last question, to which he will give no direct answer.

(Signed in Guzeratee) VYAS DOOLUB.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 23.

Answers to the same queries, given by Kishundas Veera, Banyan, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

This person replies in the negative to queries 3, 4, and 12, and to the rest that “he does not know,” with the exception of the last, which he would not answer.

(Signed in Guzeratee) KASHURVUT.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 24.

Answers to the same queries, given by Vulubram Choveesa, Bramin, inhabitant of Nandod, on the 20th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 7.—He is positively certain that Ramsing did not go himself to bring Soorujkoor; recollects his going to Mandwa with Salum Jumadar, but he never heard that Soorujkoor returned with him.

„ „ 10.—He was at first under the authority of Salum Jumadar, and afterwards under that of his Karbarees, Kishundas and Hutteebhye.

He replies in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12, and to the remainder that “he does not know”, with the exception of the last question, which he will not answer.

(Signed in Guzeratee) VULUBRAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 25.

Answers given to the same queries, by Goen Narher Patel, inhabitant of the village of Sessoor, in the Nandod Purguna, on the 27th December 1820.

This person replies in the negative to queries 3, 4, and 12, and that “he does know” to the remainder, with exception of the last, which he will not answer.

(Signed in Guzeratee) GOEN NARHER.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 26.

Answers given by Sukeedas Kuroojee Patel, inhabitant of the same village, to the same queries, on the 27th December 1820.

This person gave exactly similar answers to the last person.

(Signed in Guzeratee) SUKEEDAS KUROOJEE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 27.

Answers to the same questions, given by Naraen Shastree, inhabitant of the same village, on the 27th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 3.—He did not hear of her being pregnant before she left

Mandwa, but heard that such was the case two or three months before her delivery.

Ans. to No. 5.—There were two opinions in Sesodra; one that it was true, the other that it was false.

„ „ 10.—He has heard that the Raja sat on the Gadde, and that the Karbaree manages everything according to his own wishes.

He replies in the negative to queries 4 and 12; will give no answer to the last question; and to the others replies “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) NARAEN SHASTREE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 28.

Answers given to the same queries, by Asheram, inhabitant of the same village, on the 27th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 10.—He was governed by Kishundas Bukshee.

He replies in the negative to questions 3, 4, and 12; will give no answer to No. 13, and to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) ASHERAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 29.

Answers given to the same questions, by Deal Patel, inhabitant of the village of Poneto, in the Nurrotee Purguna, on the 28th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 13.—Narsing is certainly the son of Ajebsing, but God knows whether Purtaub Sing is true or false.

His other answers are immaterial.

(Signed in Guzeratee) DEAL PATEL.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 30.

Answers to the same questions, given by Wurnasee Patel, inhabitant of the same village, on the 28th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 5.—Most people said it was false, but God knows whether such was the case.

„ „ 9.—The usual expenses were not incurred, and therefore he thinks it was not performed.

„ „ 10.—Ramsing was entirely under the authority of Kishundas Bukshee.

Ans. to No. 13.—People say that Purtaub Sing is false, and that Narsing is the proper Raja. The other replies are immaterial.

(Signed in Guzeratee) WURNASEE DESSOY.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 31.

Answers given to the same questions, by Wusta Patel, inhabitant of the same village, on the 28th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 1.—He heard that she was about ten years old at the time alluded to.

„ „ 5.—Most people considered it as false.

„ „ 10.—Ramsing was entirely under the authority of his Karbaree.

„ „ 13.—He knows that Ajebsing and Ramsing both ruled in Raj-peepa, and that Myral Bhow afterwards placed Purtaub Sing on the Gadee. God knows who is the proper Malick, but most people consider that Narsing is. If the other party are acquainted with my evidence, they will injure me.

The other answers immaterial.

(Signed in Guzeratee) WUSTA.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 32.

Answers given to the same queries, by Narsee Patel, inhabitant of the same village, on the 28th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 5.—When the news arrived, people were of two opinions; some considered it as true, and others as false.

„ „ 13.—He thinks Narsing is, but God only knows for certain.

His other replies are immaterial.

(Signed in Guzeratee) NARSEE BHEELA.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 33.

Answers given to the same queries, by Ambaram Pooranick, inhabitant of the same village, on the 28th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 13.—He knows that Purtaub Sing sits on the Gadee, and therefore considers him to be the proper Raja. When Sooruj-koor was married to Ramsing deponent was living in Surat.

His other replies are of no consequence.

(Signed in Guzeratee) AMBARAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 34.

Answers given to the same questions, by Vustoo Rajpoot, inhabitant of the same village, on the 28th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 1.—He has heard she was ten years old at the time alluded to.

„ „ 5.—There were two opinions; some thought it was true, and some it was false.

„ „ 13.—God knows who is the proper Raja.

Other answers immaterial.

VUSTOO + his mark.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 35.

Answers given to the same questions, by Gungaram Josee, inhabitant of the town of Balode, on the 29th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 13.—All people say that Narsing is the legitimate Chieftain, and the deponent, therefore, thinks so.

His other answers are immaterial.

(Signed in Guzeratee) JOSEE GUNGARAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 36.

Answers given to the same queries, by Bicaridas Ameen Dessay, of the Wurratee Purguna, on the 29th December 1820.

Ans. to No. 5.—There were two opinions; some thought it was true, others that it was false.

„ „ 6.—He thinks it was a year or a year and a half afterwards.

„ „ 7.—He is positive that Ramsing did not go himself to Mandwa to bring Soorujkoor. Deponent recollects Ramsing going to Mandwa, two or three months after he had been seated on the Gadee, for the purpose of seizing Salum Jumadar, but he returned without Soorujkoor. This was in Sumvut 1859.

„ „ 9.—Ramsing wished to save the expenses of the ceremony of Putha Veesha, and therefore it was not performed when he ascended the Gadee; but the deponent does not know whether the Chandla ceremony was performed by the Kolla Bheel.

Ans. to No. 10.—He was in the first instance under the authority of Salum Jumadar, and after his seizure he was governed by the advice of Kishundas and his other Karbarees, and whatever they advised him to do he did.

„ „ 13.—Deponent knows that Narsing is the son of Ajebsing, but he never saw Purtaub Sing till he was brought from Mandwa. He will not give a more direct answer, but is evidently in favour of Narsing.

His other replies are of no consequence.

(Signed in Guzeratee) BICARIDAS MORANDAS.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 37.

Answers given to the same queries, by Ramchunder Bapoo, Komavisdar of Balode and Gowali, and nephew of Myne Rao, on the 31st December 1820.

Ans. to No. 10.—Ramsing was Raja, but acted agreeably to the directions of the Bukshee.

„ „ 12.—Deponent went to Rajpeepla on the twelfth day after the death of Ramsing. Kishundas Bukshee, Myral Bhow, and Hurba Bapoo's brother wrote to Baroda for instructions who was to be placed on the Gadee vacated by Ramsing's death, and an order came to place Purtaub Sing thereon, and the deponent heard that they sent a Pugree and Shilah on the event, to Purtaub Sing. Hutteebhye and Joorbhye were the former Karbarees, and they know every particular of the case, as Ramsing treated them as sons. Hutteebhye had behaved very bravely in an attack on a village. He went under the protection of the English Government from the apprehension of being plundered by Kishundas Bukshee.

„ „ 13.—Deponent thinks that Narsing is the *great gentleman* and Purtaub Sing the *little gentleman*. His other replies are of no consequence.

(Signed in Guzeratee) RAMCHUNDER BAPOO.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 38.

Answers given to the same questions, by Veeas Anundram, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of Balode, on the 31st December 1820.

Ans. to No. 13.—He knows that Purtaub Sing sat on the Gadee and that

Narsing plundered and destroyed the country in consequence.
The Raja is whoever I choose.

His other replies are immaterial.

(Signed in Guzeratee) VEEAS ANUNDRAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 39.

Answers given to the same questions, by Pandeen Abharam, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of the same village, on the 31st December 1820.

Ans. to No. 13.—Deponent heard of Purtaub Sing's birth, and sugar being divided ; will not give any direct answer.

His other answers are of no consequence.

(Signed in Guzeratee) PANDEEA ABHARAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 40.

Answers given to the same queries, by Dyaljee Bhut, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of the same village, on the 31st December 1820.

Ans. to No. 5.—Many people considered Purtaub Sing as false when Narsing commenced making his disturbances.

„ „ 13.—Deponent knows that Narsing is the son of Ajebsing, and therefore considers him to be the proper Raja.

His other replies are of no consequence.

(Signed in Guzeratee) DYALJEE BHUT.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 41.

Answers given to the same questions, by Duroo Dearam, Owdech Suhusnae Bramin, inhabitant of the same village, on the 31st December 1820.

Ans. to No. 5.—Some said it was true, and some false.

„ „ 13.—He thinks Narsing is the great Raja and Purtaub Sing the little one. The Malik is whoever I wish.

His other replies are of no moment.

(Signed in Guzeratee) DUROO DEARAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 42.

Answers given to the same queries, by Purjaram Bhut, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of the same village, on the 31st December 1820.

Ans. to No. 13.—The Raja is whoever I choose to appoint.

His other replies are of no consequence.

(Signed in Guzeratee) PURJARAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 43.

Answers to the same questions, given by Rutton Dajee, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of the same village, on the 31st December 1820.

Ans. to No. 13.—Narsing is the true Raja; but when Purtaub Sing sat on the Gadee, then we heard that he was the Raja.

His other replies are of no moment.

(Signed in Guzeratee) RUTTON DAJEE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 44.

Answers given to the same queries, by Pundia Ambadhut, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of the same village.

Ans. to No. 5.—Some people said it was true, some false.

„ „ 13.—He knows that Ramsing and Narsing were the two sons of Ajebsing, and likewise that Purtaub Sing became Raja when he was seated on the Gadee; but God knows whether he is true or false. God will appoint him who is the proper Raja.

His other answers are immaterial.

(Signed in Guzeratee) PUNDIA AMBADHUT.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 45.

Answers to the same, given by Ajebsing Moladore Rajpoot, inhabitant of Rut-tunpoor, on the 1st January 1821.

Ans. to No. 13.—Both Rajas are the same to him, and whoever the Sircar appoints, is the proper Raja.

His other replies contain nothing of importance in them.

(Signed in Guzeratee) AJEBSING.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 46.

Answers to the same queries, given by Chuttur Sing Desaye of Ruttonpoor, on the 1st January 1821.

Ans. to No. 5.—He knows nothing more than that the news came to Ruttonpoor of Purtaub Sing's birth.

„ „ 13.—It is whoever I choose to appoint.

His other replies are immaterial.

(Signed in Guzeratee) CHUTTUR SINGJEE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 47.

Answers given to the same questions, by Vias Bhowaneesunker, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of Ruttunpoor, on the 1st January 1821.

Ans. to No. 1.—He lives about thirty kos distant from Nandod, but he heard of Ajebsing putting Ramsing into confinement and of the Ranee escaping to Mandwa, after which Ramsing was removed to Rajpeepla. He has heard that she was eighteen or twenty years old when she was married.

„ „ 6.—About fifteen months after that event.

„ „ 7.—He did not go himself for her, not did he bring her with him after he returned from Mandwa, whither he had gone to seize Salum Jumadar.

„ „ 10.—He had two Karbarees, by name Hutteebhye and Joorbhye, who managed everything for him.

„ „ 13.—Deponent thinks Purtaub Sing is, because he was brought up by Ramsing.

The other replies are of no moment.

(Signed in Guzeratee) VIAS BHOWANEESUNKER JEWANRAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 48.

Answers given to the same queries, by Poonjabhye Vyed, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of Ruttunpoor, on the 1st January 1821.

Ans. to No. 13.—He knows that Narsing is the true son of Ajebsing, and that

the news came of Purtaub Sing's birth ; but he does not know whether it was true or false. God knows who is the true Raja.

His other replies are of no moment.

(Signed in Guzeratee) VYED POONJABHYE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 49.

Answers given to the same queries, by Pundia Nagjee, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of Ruttunpoor, on the 1st January 1821.

Ans. to No. 1.—He never saw her, but has heard that she was about fifteen at the time.

His other answers are immaterial.

(Signed in Guzeratee) PUNDIA NAGJEE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 50.

Answers to the same queries, given by Shewkram, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of Ruttunpoor, on the 1st January 1821.

Ans. to No. 13.—He thinks Purtaub Sing is so, because people say so.

His other answers are of no moment.

(Signed in Guzeratee) PUNDIA SHEWKRAM.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 51.

Answers given to the same questions, by Bydas Sootar, of Gowlee, on the 5th January 1821.

Ans. to No. 13.—Most people say that Purtaub Sing was brought from some place. This trick was made, and people say he is false. Narsing being therefore the son of Ajebsing, is the legitimate Chieftain of Rajpeepla.

His other answers are immaterial.

BYDAS + his mark.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 52.

Answers given to the same queries, by Jeewan Patel, inhabitant of the village of Dholgaum, in the Ruttunpoor Purgana, on the 7th January 1821.

Ans. to No. 13.—He knows that the birth of Purtaub Sing was proclaimed about

ten years since, and his village paid 5 rupees to a Bramin sent by Ramsing to publish it. He has seen Purtaub Sing in Ramsing's arms, and on that account considers him to be the proper Raja. He does not recollect the Bramin's name.

His other replies contain nothing of moment.

(Signed in Guzeratee) JEEWAN.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 53.

Answers given to the same questions, by Esver Sing Jacoor, of the village of Hunupoore, on the 30th January 1821.

Ans. to No. 10.—Ramsing was under the authority of his Karbarees Kishundas Bukshee and Hutteebhye Chowra.

„ „ 13.—Ramsing treated Purtaub Sing like a son, and deponent on this account considers him to be the proper Raja. Deponent is very young, only eighteen or nineteen years old. Some people say Purtaub Sing is true, and others false.

The deponent replies in the negative to queries 3, 4, 11, and 12, and to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) ESWUR SINGJEE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 54.

Answers given to the same queries, by Kusoo Bhut, Owdech Tolikia Bramin, inhabitant of Hunupoore, on the 31st January 1821.

Ans. to No. 5.—In Hunupoore some people said it was true, some it was false.

„ „ 13.—He is the proper Raja whom I please.

He replies in the negative to queries 3, 4, 11, and 12, and to the remainder that “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) BHUT KUSOO.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 55.

Answers given to the same questions, by Kooerjee Banyan, of Hunupoore, on the 30th January 1821.

Ans. to No. 5.—Some said it was true, and others that it was false.

Ans. to No. 10.—Ramsing was under the authority of Kishundas Bukshee.

„ „ 13.—Whoever I wish is the Raja. The world is divided in opinion, some being for Narsing, others for Purtaub Sing.

He replies in the negative to queries 3, 4, 11, and 12; to the remainder “he does not know.”

(Signed in Guzeratee) KOOERJEE.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 56.

Answers given to the same queries, by Bajee Junoora Rajpoot, inhabitant of the village of Purtaub Nuggur, in the Kuntall Purguna, on the 31st Jan. 1821.

Ans. to No. 3.—He never heard of her being in a state of pregnancy before Purtaub Sing’s birth.

„ „ 5.—Most people said it was false.

„ „ 10.—He was under the authority of Hutteebhye Chowra and Kishundas Bukshee.

„ „ 13.—In his opinion Narsing is the true Raja, as all respectable men consider Purtaub Sing as false.

He replies in the negative to queries 4, 11, and 12, and to the remainder “he does not know.”

(Signed) BAJEE + his mark.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

F No. 57.

Answers to the same questions, by Hurreebhye Rajpoot, inhabitant of the village of Purtaub Nuggur, on the 31st January 1821.

Ans. to No. 3.—He never heard of her being pregnant before Purtaub Sing’s birth.

„ „ 5.—Most people said it was false.

„ „ 10.—He was under the authority of Kishundas Bukshee and Hutteebhye Chowra.

„ „ 13.—In his opinion Narsing is the proper Raja.

He replies in the negative to 4, 11, and 12, and to the remainder “he does not know.”

• (Signed) HURREEBHYE + his mark.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

No. 97 of 1821.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From C. NORRIS, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda,

To J. B. SIMSON, Esq., Secretary with the Honorable the Governor, Surat.

Dated the 2nd May 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to report the proceedings which have taken place, connected with the question of the Rajpcepla succession, subsequently to the departure of the Honorable the Governor.

2. On the 18th ultimo I waited upon His Highness for the purpose of conferring upon this subject. The Karbarees of the two parties were present, and, after some discussion, it was settled at my recommendation, that each should prepare and produce, on Monday the 23rd ultimo, a paper stating his objections, if any, to the investigation which had taken place, the points on which he desired further inquiry, and the manner in which he wished such inquiry to be conducted.

3. On the 23rd His Highness excused himself on the plea of business, and requested that I would wait upon him on the 24th.

4. On the 23rd I received from Narsing's Karbaree a letter, which had been sent to him by one of the Patels of Phophulya, stating that a Karkoon of the Gaekwar Government, who was named, and other agents, had been urging him and others, by threats, to retract and contradict the evidence which they had delivered in favour of Narsing's claims. I had a short memorandum drawn out, remarking upon the impropriety of proceedings like this, and requesting that they might not be practised.

5. I took this memorandum with me on the 24th, and previously to commencing on business, had it read to the Gaekwar. From his confusion, and that of the two Ministers, I confess I think that the Patel's allegation was true, and that all these were conscious of having acted unfairly. After some consultation carried on in a low tone, His Highness requested that I would name to him the persons who had been tampered with. I said that I must first be satisfied that they would not feel the effects of his resentment for having told the truth, and that, therefore, if no further complaints of this nature were made, I would at some future time give him the information which he wished. The present attempt to influence the witnesses having failed, I had merely mentioned it in order to put him on his guard, to preserve an open understanding with him, and to prevent anything of the kind in future.

6. The parties were soon after called in. Narsing's Karbaree said that he had no paper to give, as was indeed to be expected. Purtaub Sing's Karbaree said that his paper was not yet prepared. I asked if any part of it was

ready, and he answered in the negative. I reminded him of the number of days during which he had been in possession of all the documents connected with this question, and of his having produced, while the Honorable the Governor was at Baroda, a long paper setting forth the particulars of his case. That paper, I said, must comprise all that he had to say, and I asked why he did not produce that, or some document containing the substance of it. He could give no satisfactory answer at all to these remarks. The Gaekwar, although he had himself ordered him to be prepared on the 23rd, and made him repeat often that frequent messages had been sent from the Palace urging him to use despatch, evinced no displeasure at the contempt with which his orders had been treated.

7. An application was at this period made either by Purtaub Sing's Karbaree, or by the Gaekwar, that an intelligent Vukeel, who was known to the Karbaree, should be allowed to plead Purtaub Sing's cause. I agreed to this, upon the other party being allowed the same option. This was, however, declined by Narsing's Karbaree.

8. The Vukeel was then introduced. His name is Tapidas; he is a Banian, and an inhabitant of Surat, from whence he seems to have been invited for the purpose of undertaking his present duty.

9. I then observed to His Highness that the experience of this day was sufficient to show, that unless some time were fixed within which the parties should be allowed to state what they had to communicate, we should both be trifled with at the pleasure of the parties; that as they were both then present, they might be called upon to state how many days would be necessary to enable them to prepare the paper which was required; and that it was only requisite for us to inform them that, after this period was expired, no representations would be attended to. His Highness agreed that this communication should be made; and Purtaub Sing's Vukeel being applied to, said that on Wednesday, the 2nd May, he would produce the paper required. Narsing's party of course agreed to this period being fixed. Both parties were then apprised that on Wednesday, the 2nd, such representations as they might have to make would be listened to, and not after that date. I then caused to be prepared a short memorandum, describing the paper which was required, and mentioning the period in which it was to be produced. His Highness approved of this, and a copy of it was given to each party.

10. I waited upon His Highness again to-day, at about 3 o'clock, agreeably to the arrangement concluded. He received me with a gloomy and sullen air, and when, after a short time, I asked him whether Purtaub Sing's Vukeel were in attendance, he said that he could not tell, that he was resolved to take no share in the investigation, that I had accused him unjustly of influencing the witnesses, and that he must know the names of those upon whose

authority this was stated, and also the names of the persons said to have been employed, before he proceeded further. I promised him that this information should be given to him speedily, and observed to him that it was necessary that I should communicate to him what I had heard, in order that no mystery might exist between us, and that I should be perfectly satisfied, provided a similar case were to arise, if he were to behave in the same way towards me. These and all other arguments were of course unavailing. His Highness' object evidently was to prevent further inquiry, and he thought this line of conduct well calculated to secure the attainment of his object. After about an hour spent in fruitless debate, he left the room, and remained absent for another hour. I then sent a message to him to request that he would come, as soon as could be convenient to him, as my time was much occupied. He soon after returned, the Dewanjee having in the mean time been in consultation with him, and the same conversation was resumed. Finding that I was not likely to make any impression by anything that I might say, and that His Highness' object evidently was to shun inquiry, I told him that as Narsing had been considered as rather under the Resident's authority, I would call his Karbaree, according to the agreement, and ask him whether he had any paper to produce upon the subject of a fresh investigation. To this Syajee could offer no objection, though he said that he wished to be considered as taking no part in the inquiry. Narsing's Karbaree said that he required no fresh inquiry, but that he reserved to himself the right of answering any points which the opposite party might advance.

11. I then made another effort to induce His Highness to call in Purtaub Sing's party, but in vain. It was now getting late, and I said, that as His Highness could not be prevented from having his own way, all that was left for me was to record the reasons which had impeded the inquiry. I caused a memorandum on the subject to be prepared immediately. This was finished about sunset, when it was read to His Highness, who said that the reasons were truly stated. He at the same instant gave me a memorandum which he had prepared respecting the instructing of the witnesses, which he denied that any one undertook by his authority or with his knowledge, and said that provided I withdrew my memorandum, he was willing that Purtaub Sing's Vukeel should be called in. I requested that he would order him to be called, but it was still some time before he would do so. He wished me to call him in order that he might afterwards have an opportunity of denying all participation in the investigation. He, however, at last ordered Purtaub Sing's people to be called. When they had entered, I asked His Highness whether he would speak to the Vukeel himself or would wish me to do it. He said that he had no wish at all in the business, that he was merely an auditor upon this occasion. It occurred to me, that the persons having been produced, it was

as proper for me as for the Gaekwar to speak to them, and on the 24th I had addressed them at his request. I therefore asked the Vukeel whether he had brought the paper which he promised. It was evident that he had not, though it was long before I could get a direct answer, which was however at last obtained. He repeated over and over again that he could not discover the points of importance in the case, and wished me to make them known to him. I asked him whether he had not seen the papers on the subject. He answered repeatedly in the most evasive way, until at length the Karbaree said that he (the Vukeel) had seen them. I then told His Highness that I had nothing further to ask, and took my leave.

12. The above narrative will enable the Honorable Board to judge how far I am right in forming the following opinion upon this interview. Syajee's ill humour was, I am convinced, affected for the purpose either of producing disagreement and thereby preventing inquiry, or delaying it by long and useless discussions. The latter object was gained ; but when, towards the evening, he found that the reasons of the delay were recorded, he proposed that Purtaub Sing's party should be called in, under the hope that such time as remained might be occupied in desultory and fruitless discussion. This might have been the case had I been less prepared for what was to happen. But the course which the Vukeel pursued was exactly that which I had expected him to adopt. It was evidently his object to get into an argument, in order to consume time. His remark, however, that he did not know the points of importance in the case, was singularly inapplicable, as he was in possession of the summary which had been sent in to the Durbar, which must have given him this information in less time than would be taken up in repeating them to him. Besides, had he really employed his time in the way that the Gaekwar and I had ordered him, he must at all events have made some progress in his memorandum, whereas he denied that he had a line to produce.

13. It can hardly be imagined that Purtaub Sing's cause is thought by his supporters to be so bad as to render it necessary for them to shun inquiry altogether, and to endeavour by engaging from time to time in verbal altercation to wear out our patience. It is therefore to be inferred that it was their desire to put off the investigation for a season only.

14. What effect the failure of Purtaub Sing's Vukeel to produce his paper of objections and demands at the stipulated time should have upon his cause, the Honorable Board will determine. As it was the wish of the Honorable the Governor that this inquiry should take place without delay, I have used my best endeavours to expedite it, and on the 24th I thought successfully, for the Gaekwar, the Ministers, and the Vukeel then said that the mode which I recommended was fair and direct, the memorandum of the documents required from the parties clear and comprehensive, and the period allotted for preparing them ample.

15. On the 29th, Narsing's Karbaree, as he has informed me, was sent for by Mama Juktap, His Highness' maternal uncle, who told him that if Narsing would give the Gaekwar Rupees 1,00,000, Gyabae Rupees 25,000, and His Highness' son Rupees 25,000, his right to the Gadee would be admitted at the conference of the 2nd May. The Karbaree told me that he said that he would, after consulting with his master, send an answer. He asked my advice, and I recommended his writing for answer that Narsing would feel grateful to His Highness if he were speedily to acknowledge his just right, but that he could not make the presents mentioned, because they would at this time be nothing but bribes, and the measure would therefore be disapproved by me.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. NORRIS, Acting Resident.

Baroda Residency, 2nd May 1821.

No. 422 of 1821.

* POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. B. SIMSON, Esq., Secretary with the Governor,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 7th of May 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a despatch from Mr. Norris, under date the 2nd of this month, reporting the proceedings connected with the succession to the Rajpeepla Gadee, subsequent to the Governor's departure from Baroda.

2. It appears very evident that the object of the Gaekwar, in postponing all further discussion on the subject, originates in the wish of deferring it till the arrival of Mr. Norris' successor, under the hope that his opinion and sentiments may differ from the view taken of the matter by his predecessor.

3. The Honorable the Governor requests, therefore, that you, on your arrival, will expostulate with Syajee Rao on the evident wish he has manifested to procrastinate, and endeavour to persuade His Highness to come to a speedy decision on the rights of the two claimants.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. B. SIMSON,

Secretary with the Governor.

*
Camp Wapsee, 7th of May 1821.

No. 116 of 1821.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant in Charge Baroda Residency,
To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 30th May 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Secretary Simon's letter to Mr. Williams' address, dated the 7th instant, in reply to Mr. Norris' letter of the 2nd of this month, reporting the proceedings which had taken place subsequent to the Honorable the Governor's departure from Baroda, relative to the succession to the sovereignty of the district of Rajpeeppla, and requesting that gentleman, upon his arrival, to expostulate with His Highness the Gackwar upon the wish he has manifested to delay coming to a final decision upon this long pending question.

2. Since the departure of Mr. Norris from Baroda, I have taken an opportunity of pressing His Highness to continue the proceedings, which however, as I anticipated, he declined, on the plea of ill-health, at the same time expressing a wish that the business should lay over until the arrival of Mr. Williams.

3. Finding it impossible to persuade His Highness to relinquish this intention, I did not consider it advisable to remonstrate with him upon his past conduct, conceiving that the expostulation coming from Mr. Williams, would be likely to have a much more salutary effect upon His Highness than if it came from me.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

Baroda Residency, 30th May 1821.

Assistant in Charge.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 18th July 1821.

SIR,—As the Honorable the Governor in Council will, in a short time, have to decide whether or no, on the settlement of the question of the succession to the sovereignty of Rajpeeppla, the British Government are to take an active part in the management of its affairs, and in arranging for the gradual liquidation of the debts with which the Principality is encumbered, I have great pleasure in submitting an elaborate and able report,* in the form of a

* This Report will be found in a former portion of this Selection. Vide pages 263 to 296.

memorandum, upon the former and present condition of Rajpeepla, drawn up by my First Assistant, Mr. Willoughby, from such information as he was able to procure, during the short time he was lately employed in that country in investigating the rights of Narsing and Purtaub Sing to the sovereignty of the district.

2. The Honorable the Governor will perceive, that the whole management of the country has been vested in the hands of the Gaekwar Government since the year 1815, and that, during this period, the distresses of the country and its debts have so greatly increased, notwithstanding the whole resources of the country have been at the command of those in whom the administration of the country was entrusted.

3. From the contiguity of our own districts to Rajpeepla, it is absolutely necessary that a good Government should be established in it; and the policy which dictated the expediency of the late arrangements made with this Government for the collections of its tribute in Kattywar and the Mahee Kanta, on this account in particular, is applicable in its fullest extent to the tribute due to it from Rajpeepla, and proper arrangements being made by the Raja for the punctual payment of his tribute and Ghansdana in future, the Gaekwar Government possesses no further claim upon him, and he is consequently at liberty to make what arrangements he pleases with us.

4. As I am in daily expectation of His Highness finally coming to a decision upon this long protracted question, I beg leave to solicit the instructions of Government for the course of conduct I am to pursue upon such an event taking place.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 18th July 1821.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 2nd August 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 18th of last month, submitting a memorandum upon the present and former state of Rajpeepla, drawn up by your First Assistant.

* * * * *

5. The Governor in Council, however, awaits the receipt of a communication of the result of your application to the Gaekwar, and, in the mean time, I have to express the great satisfaction which the Governor in Council has

derived from a perusal of Mr. Willoughby's research and intelligence, highly creditable to his assiduity and talents.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 2nd August 1821.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to report, for the information of the Honorable the Governor, that His Highness Syajee Rao has, after much delay and discussion, decided that Narsing's claim to the Gadee of Rajpeepla is established; but as that Chieftain, from his blindness, is incapacitated from reigning, his eldest son, Verisal, now residing at Chota Oodepoor, will be invested with the sovereignty of that petty State.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Baroda Residency, 9th August 1821. (Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated the 25th August 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated the 9th of this month, reporting that His Highness Syajee Rao has, after much delay and discussion, decided that Narsing's claim to the Gadee of Rajpeepla is established; but that, in consequence of that Chieftain's blindness, his eldest son will be invested with the sovereignty of that petty State.

The Honorable the Governor in Council has derived great satisfaction from that decision, and desires that you will proceed to the adjustment of the remaining questions relating to that Principality.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 25th August 1821.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 2nd instant,* in reply to my letter of the 18th ultimo, forwarding Mr. Willoughby's memorandum upon the former and present state of Rajpeepla.

* Vide preceding page.

2. I had the honour to report, on the 9th instant, that His Highness the Gaekwar had at length decided that Narsing had established his claim to the sovereignty of the petty State of Rajpeepla, and I have now the satisfaction to report that Verisal, the eldest son of Narsing, was yesterday presented with the Pugree and Shella of investiture.

3. I beg leave to refer the Honorable Board to the accompanying paper, containing minutes of conversation which took place between His Highness and myself, prior to the investiture taking place.

4. I regret that it should have been inferred from the substance of the letters I have at different times written on the Rajpeepla question, that this tributary was not included in the arrangements concluded at Baroda in 1820 placing the control of all the Gaekwar's tributaries under the British Government, of which I never entertained the least doubt.

5. The Honorable the Governor in Council will observe, that throughout the conference I maintained that it was included, and that such was admitted, by neither His Highness nor his Ministers disputing the point.

6. I await, therefore, the instructions of Government before I proceed to take any further measures, which will be rendered necessary by the placing in nominal authority the new Raja, and the consequent evacuation of his territory by the Gaekwar's troops.

7. The just debt due to this Government from Rajpeepla will, I have no doubt, be found to be very considerable, but we may safely calculate that it will justly admit of great reduction.

8. As, however, such reduction cannot be made without great labour and minute investigation, and as the reduction will depend upon the discovery of the exhibition in the Gaekwar's accounts of expenses not actually incurred, as well as of collections of revenue not brought to account, which can only be ascertained on the spot from the local authorities, it would appear very advisable that some one should be deputed to Rajpeepla for the above purposes on the opening of the season.

9. It will be necessary to settle a provision upon Purtaub Sing and his mother, but upon the most economical scale consistent with propriety. Having no longer any claim to the title of Raja, he must necessarily reduce his establishment; and his allowances may reasonably be reduced to a smaller amount than those he already enjoys, which the State, in its present impoverished condition, cannot afford to allow him. I, however, beg to be favoured with the instructions of Government upon this as well as the many other points adverted to in my Assistant's memorandum.

I have the honour to to, be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 23rd August 1821.

Baroda, Wednesday, 22nd August 1821.

Visited by appointment His Highness Syajee Rao, accompanied by Captain Barnewall, the Political Agent for Kattywar, and the gentlemen of the Residency. Verisal, the eldest son of Narsing, the Rajpeepla Raja, also attended for the purpose of being introduced to His Highness.

After some delay Syajee consented to receive Verisal, who accordingly was introduced and made the usual offering of cloths and jewels. His Highness then asked me to repair to another room above, where he might have some private conversation, to which I assented, and, at the suggestion of the Dewanjee, Captain Barnewall was also invited, but he requested that no other person should be present. We went upstairs, when Syajee sent for the Bhow and Dewanjee. Meer Surfraz Ali had in the first instance joined us. When we were seated, His Highness, after much whispering with his Ministers, said that he was now ready to give the Shella and Pngree to Narsing's son, to recall his Thannas from Rajpeepla, and to give the Choor Chittees, if I would guarantee to him the payment of the whole of his large debt against Rajpeepla. I replied that this was impossible; that all His Highness could possibly expect from me, was an assurance that his interests, in any engagement we made with the Raja, would not be neglected. With respect to his making it a condition to give up the Government of Rajpeepla on my assenting to his wishes, I observed that the arrangement at Baroda in 1820, placed that State under our control, in the same manner as the tributaries of Kattywar and the Mahee Kanta, and that the management was merely left with His Highness till the question of succession was decided. Meer Surfraz Ali said that I could not object to telling His Highness that his debts should be paid. I told him that of course I had, as my saying so would imply, that even if the Rajpeepla State could not discharge it that my Government would, and that on the faith of this declaration His Highness would found a claim. I repeated that all they could expect was an assurance that justice would be rendered to them, and that no greater loss would be sustained by them; that they had had the management of the country for some years, which was no small advantage. His Highness again urged me explicitly to say that his debt would be paid, and that he would instantly give Verisal his cloths of investiture and deliver up the country. I repeated my former answer and observed that after he had acknowledged the title of Verisal, he had no right to retain the country; that, however, it was not my intention to require either the Choor Chittees, or the evacuation of Rajpeepla by his Thannas before I received the instructions of my Government, and that the young Raja would reside near the Residency till they arrived, and that until the order did come I wished no change to take place. At this time a Karkoon came in, and whispering something

to His Highness, he immediately, putting on an appearance of alarm, said that Soorujkoor, the mother of Purtaub Sing, had come to his mother, and was determined to take away his character by committing some tragical act, unless I would see her, and assure her of a provision being made for her.

I told His Highness that Soorujkoor, the reputed mother of Purtaub Sing, would never have come without encouragement from his mother; that His Highness was well aware that I knew all the intrigues which had been going on, and that it was useless pressing me on the subject, as I would neither see her nor make any promise of a provision, but that she would not be neglected. Upon this, some conversation took place between the Dewanjee Bhow and Meer Surfray Ali, after which this subject was not again touched upon, and His Highness said, if I would ensure him from loss, he would give the boy the Shella and Pugree. I said I would not pledge myself to anything of the kind. The Bhow then produced a paper, purporting to be written by order of Narsing, at the time the Bhow had proceeded to Rajpeepla (when he brought the rival claimants to Baroda), stating that he (Narsing) in the event of his being declared the legitimate successor, would leave the country under the Gaekwar Government until the whole of the debt was cleared off. To this I replied, I thought a long time ago I had seen a copy of the paper, but doubted its authenticity, but at all events it could never have been granted willingly; however that might be, the late arrangements at Baroda, made by the Governor in 1820, placing all His Highness' tributaries under the control of the British Government, prevented the Gaekwar from deriving any benefit from it, even if authentic and given voluntarily. To this, neither His Highness nor the Ministers made any reply, and a long desultory conversation took place, on a variety of subjects totally foreign to the point under discussion, when His Highness suddenly resumed the debate, and, through Surfray Ali, said that if I would recommend to my Government that an arrangement should be made with the Raja to liquidate his debts, he would immediately declare Verisal Raja, and give him cloths, and also the Choor Chittees, and recall his Thannas. I told His Highness that, strictly speaking, he had recognized the young man's title by accepting his presents, made in consequence of his having declared him the legal heir; that consequently his being allowed to retain his Thannas in the country was merely an act of sufferance on my part; that I would certainly recommend that an arrangement should be made with the Raja for the liquidation of such debts, owing to the Gaekwar Government, as should be found correct after a close inspection into the accounts of the revenue, expenses, &c. It was now getting late, and I requested my leave. His Highness, after some further conversation, said he was satisfied, and reposed with full confidence in my friendship, and desired that Verisal and the gentlemen who

had remained below might be sent for, upon which he presented him with a Shella and Pugree, certainly in a very abrupt and unceremonious way, and then dismissed him. I told His Highness I was happy this affair was settled; that I should immediately write to the Honorable the Governor for instructions, and in the mean time wished all things to remain as usual, and the Raja would live at the Residency.

I then asked when the Kattywar disputed points would come under discussion. He said that he trusted to me entirely to keep his reputation; that he sacrificed much in giving up such a Raj as Kattywar.

I told His Highness he had been a great gainer by the measure, that we were likely to be the only sufferers. That the Honorable the Governor wished nothing more than the increase of His Highness' dignity, and that, of course, I should on all proper occasions support him.

During the whole of this conference, it is to be remarked, that neither His Highness nor his Ministers disputed the question of Rajpeepla being under our control and included in the arrangement, a fact which is consequently admitted by them.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

SIR,—I omitted to state in my reply to your letter of the 23rd ultimo, No. 181 of this Department, that I perfectly recollected having told the Honorable the Governor, when at Baroda, that I conceived Rajpeepla to be included in the Mahee Kanta arrangements, and I avail myself of this opportunity to mention, that my having given such an assurance, was the sole cause of that petty State not being specifically placed under our control by a separate engagement.

2. My report to you of the 23rd ultimo will have informed you of this Government having admitted the fact of my having understood at that time Rajpeepla to have been comprehended in the Mahee Kanta Mooluckgere, and of their having abandoned their grounds of opposition. I find also in the Dustoor ool Umul it is considered as appertaining to the division of Mahee Kanta.

3. Since the decision of His Highness Syajee Rao in favour of Narsing's son Verisal, the exactions of the Gaekwar officer in charge of the country have been reported to me as having become exceedingly heavy, and I am therefore anxious to be favoured, as early as possible, with the instructions of

the Honorable the Governor, upon the arrangements to be made with the Raja before placing him in possession of the country of his ancestors.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 11th September 1821.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated the 29th September 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of the 23rd of August and 11th of this month, relative to Rajpeepla.

2. I have been instructed to express the satisfaction of the Governor in Council at the acquiescence of the Gaekwar in the desire of the British Government to undertake the management of Rajpeepla.

3. His Highness' present consent to that measure renders all further discussion regarding the original intention of both parties in that respect unnecessary ; as it is, however, more than probable that the Gaekwar will experience a great defalcation in his tribute, that point ought to be clearly understood before we enter on the control of the country.

4. Adverting on this occasion to Mr. Willoughby's report, accompanying your despatch of the 18th of July last, I have to inform you that it would have been acceptable to the Governor in Council if you had added to the report a sketch of the measures best adapted to the government of the Principality, by embodying Mr. Willoughby's suggestions, filling up the deficiencies, and accompanying the whole with your own sentiments on the subject. The want of such a statement compels the Governor in Council to leave some parts of the present instructions defective, but he relies on your discretion for supplying the want in the manner best suited to the public service.

5. The measure of setting up the son of Narsing, as recommended by Mr. Willoughby, is approved, equally with the promulgation of a proclamation of amnesty in the name of Verisal and that of the Gaekwar and of the Company, and it is authorised as far as depends on the British Government.

6. The engagement to be guided by our advice, should be taken from the Raja, as recommended by Mr. Willoughby.

7. In respect to the appointment of a Manager of Rajpeepla, the Governor in Council leaves the selection to you, as the best judge of the person who ought to be chosen for the office ; but great attention must be paid to the opinion of Narsing, and care should be taken that the person who may be selected may have weight sufficient to maintain a strong Government and to repress disorders.

8. The Governor in Council approves of the provisions recommended for Purtaub Sing and Narsing. You will be pleased to fix the amount with a due regard as well to the rank of those personages as to the pressing exigencies of the State.

9. I have the honour to convey the direction of the Governor in Council that you depute Mr. Willoughby to Rajpeepla for the purpose of putting the Government in motion. He should take that opportunity of inquiring into the Gaekwar's claims, and report the result, which you will likewise examine, and forward, with your opinion in detail, for the decision of the Governor in Council.

* * * * *

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 29th September 1821.

No. 252 of 1821.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 29th ultimo, relative to Rajpeepla.

2. In conformity with the instructions of Government, Mr. Willoughby has proceeded to Rajpeepla, to carry into effect the objects pointed out in your letter.

3. I have the honour to annex copy of the instructions I have issued to that gentleman, the tenor of which, I trust, will meet with the approbation of the Honorable the Governor in Council.

* * * * *

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda, 30th October 1821.

No. 249 of 1821.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant to the Resident, Baroda.

Dated the 28th October 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to request you will take the earliest opportunity of proceeding to Rajpeepla, and to furnish you with the following instructions

for your guidance in performing the objects for which you are deputed into that Principality.

2. You are aware that the Gaekwar Government has relinquished its control in that Province, which is vested in the British Government, upon the same principles nearly as the control of its tributaries in Kattywar and Mahee Kanta.

3. The justice of setting up Verisal, the son of Narsing, as Raja of the country, having been fully established by the investigation made by yourself last year, the British Government, as well as that of the Gaekwar, have consented to such a measure being immediately carried into effect.

4. You will, therefore, upon your arrival in the country, issue proclamations proclaiming that person to be the Raja of the country.

5. You are likewise authorised to promulgate proclamations, couched in the terms you have suggested, promising a general oblivion of the past, in the name of Verisal and that of the Gaekwar and British Governments.

6. I have been instructed by Government to appoint a Manager of Rajpeeppla, to conduct its affairs during the minority of Verisal, and relying upon the favourable representation you have made of the character and abilities of Purvoodas, the present Karbaree of Narsing, you are authorised to nominate him to that responsible situation, provided that the same is in consonance with the wishes of Narsing (whom you must privately consult on the subject), and that he furnishes the written engagement you have proposed.

7. The settlement of the provisions you have recommended to be made for Narsing, and the ex claimant Purtaub Sing, are approved.

* * * * *

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 28th October 1821.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated the 8th November 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th of last month, transmitting a copy of the instructions which you have issued to your Assistant for his guidance in the settlement of Rajpeeppla.

2. The Honorable the Governor in Council entirely approves of your proceedings as stated in your letter, and of your instructions to Mr. Willoughby.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 8th November 1821

No. 281 of 1821.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From C. J. WHEELER, Esq., Second Assistant in Charge Baroda Residency,
To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 22nd November 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, a report of the proceedings, as adopted by Mr. Willoughby in Rajpeepla, with a view to place the Raja Narsing, whose right to that Principality had been on a former occasion ascertained, in power, and to restore some order and management in the administration and government of that country.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. J. WHEELER,

Baroda Residency, 22nd Nov. 1821.

Second Assistant in Charge.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant to the Resident, Baroda,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident, Baroda.

Dated the 19th November 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 28th ultimo, directing me to proceed to Rajpeepla at the earliest opportunity, and to report my proceedings after my arrival in the country, in part performance of the instructions contained in your letter.

2. The seating of Verisal, the son of Narsing, upon the Gadee of Rajpeepla, was delayed until the 15th instant, that day having been selected by the Josees, or astrologers, as one most propitious for the event. The ceremony was performed, according to custom, at the Fort of Rajpeepla. It was very simple, consisting merely in a few religious ceremonies; after the performance of which two Kotlah Bheels, who are supposed to be descended from the aboriginal family settled in the country, having repeated a kind of blessing and performed the Chandla ceremony, took the boy up in their arms, and, ascending a platform raised about three feet from the ground, upon which the Gadee was placed, seated him upon it, amidst the acclamations of those present; after which sugar was distributed to all assembled.

3. The customary expenses of this ceremony, which is known by the name of Puttabeshaick, is 15,000 rupees; but taking into consideration the distressed condition of the country, I suggested the inexpediency of laying out so large a sum of money on the occasion. This was immediately acquiesced in by Narsing and his Karbaree, and I believe the whole expense incurred will not amount to more than 10,000 rupees, which sum was chiefly expended in

charity to Bramins. I mention this fact, as it evinces, on the part of the Government, a laudable desire to economize as much as possible.

4. I made the usual presents to the young Raja on the occasion, after which Nuzzurs were presented to him by his relations, friends, and dependants, to the amount of Rs. 1,410.

5. It is customary, upon the accession of a new Raja to the sovereignty of Rajpeepla, that a Nuzzur should be paid by every village throughout his dominions. This has not yet been done, as I consider it right to solicit instructions whether, in the present distressed state of the country, it is advisable to levy it or not.

6. I must, at the same time, express my opinion, that it would be inexpedient for the Raja to give up this right altogether, as it is one sanctioned by custom, and, if justly levied, would fall chiefly on those who are best able to pay it. It might, however, be something less than custom would warrant being taken. Independent, however, of the above reasons, I am certain it would be willingly paid; as a proof of which many of the Jumadars and Patels of villages, as a matter of course, offered their Nuzzurs, which, however, were refused at the time, and those who offered them told that they would in all probability be called upon to pay them hereafter.

7. In pursuance of the instructions contained in the 4th and 5th paras. of your letter, two proclamations have been issued throughout Rajpeepla, the one in the name of the British and Gaekwar's Governments, proclaiming Verisal to be the Raja of the country, directing his subjects to pursue their respective occupations in peace, and promising that no one shall be molested for the part he may have taken in the past dispute; the other in the name of Verisal himself, couched in nearly the same terms. I have the honour to annex copies and translations of these two documents.

8. I took an early opportunity of privately consulting the wishes of Narsing upon the subject of appointing a Karbaree to manage the affairs of Rajpeepla during the minority of his son Verisal. He in the first instance refused to nominate any person, saying he would rather leave the selection to me; upon being however pressed to do so, he without hesitation named Purvoodas, stating that he did so not only because his family had filled the situation for many generations, but because he had served him with the strictest fidelity for many years, and in the height of his misfortunes and distresses.

9. It only being necessary to ascertain that Narsing's wishes on this point were in favour of Purvoodas prior to his being appointed the Karbaree of Verisal, that person has accordingly been appointed, having subscribed to a written engagement of the nature recommended in my memorandum.

10. I am unable at present to forward a copy of this document, as a part of its contents will depend upon the instructions of Government relative

to the appointment of a Photdar, or not, to be the receiver of the revenues of the State, as well as the advance of the money required for its necessary expenses.

11. Such, in my humble judgment, appears absolutely requisite, provided any one can be found willing to undertake it upon terms favourable to the State, and suitable to its present condition. To effect this I am, in concert with the manager, using my best endeavours, and shall report the result hereafter for your information and that of Government; but in the mean time I shall take care to avoid involving myself in making any permanent settlement upon a subject so important, and one upon which I have received as yet no instructions.

12. The whole of the Gaekwar troops have, according to the directions issued by their Government, retired to the Thana of Roond, and all the country is now in possession of the Raja's troops. No disturbance whatever has occurred, and perfect peace and tranquillity reigns throughout the district, which is a convincing proof that the recent change is viewed with satisfaction by the greatest part of those residing in Rajpeepla.

13. Although, however, the country has been delivered over to me in compliance with the orders contained in the Choor Chittees issued by the Gaekwar Government, I deem it my duty to state, that I am informed, much property belonging to the Rajpeepla State has been taken away by the Gaekwar's officers, and I shall not fail to investigate the truth of this information, and report upon it hereafter, provided it appears to be well founded.

14. I am now occupied in the performance of the other parts of your instructions, a most material part of which is to investigate the heavy debts with which the State is involved. As, however, it is impossible to commence investigating that claimed by the Gaekwar Government until I am in possession of the documents alluded to in the 12th and 13th paras. of your letter, I trust the Gaekwar Government, from motives of self-interest, will be induced to furnish them with as little delay as possible.

15. It would likewise appear very desirable that the Accountant Karkoon, who has been stationed in Rajpeepla during the period the country has been under the Gaekwar management, should be directed to attend me, to give me any explanations which may be requisite, which will avoid the necessity of my making constant references to Baroda for that purpose.

16. As Myral Narrain is stated to have considerable claims against the State, it would be for the same reason very desirable that he should be directed to send any person he may think proper with his accounts, but one who will be able to give me the necessary explanations their intricacy may require.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident,

Nandod, 19th November 1821,

Translation of a Proclamation issued by J. P. Willoughby, Esq., on the part of the British and Gaekwar Governments, to the inhabitants of the District of Rajpeepla, dated Kartik Shood the 10th, Sumvut 1878, corresponding with the 5th of November 1821, at Nandod.

The two Governments abovementioned proclaim, for the information of all persons, that the right of Maharana Verisaljee to the Chieftainship of Rajpeepla has been ascertained, and that he has accordingly been seated on the Gadee. All Zumindars, Patels, Putwarrees, Banians, Rajpoots, Koonbees, Bhattas, Bramins, &c. &c., high and low of every caste, residing in Rajpeepla, are directed, from this time forward, to pursue their different occupations, and cultivate their lands in peace. Prior to this (time) whatever part any one may have taken in the past dispute, no molestation will now be in consequence offered to him, but all will be permitted to remain in peace who conduct themselves properly, and are obedient to the orders of Government.

This Proclamation is issued in conformity with the orders of both Governments, by J. P. Willoughby, Esq., Assistant to the Resident at Baroda.

(Seal) and signature.

(True translation)

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant.

Translation of a Proclamation issued by Maharana Verisaljee, Raja of Rajpeepla, to his subjects, upon his assuming the Sovereignty of that District, dated Kartik Shood the 10th, Sumvut 1878, corresponding with the 5th of November 1821, at Nandod.

In the name of Maharana Verisaljee, Chieftain of the district of Rajpeepla. Be it known to all people, Zumindars, Patels, Putwarrees, Banians, Rajpoots, Koonbees, Bhattas, Bramins, &c. &c., high and low of every caste, who reside in Rajpeepla, that the dispute which formerly existed regarding the right to the Gadee of Rajpeepla, has been investigated by the two great Sirkars (viz. that of the Honorable Company and that of the Gaekwar) jointly, and my claims having been found just, they have confirmed my right, and put me in possession of the country. My rule and authority in this country has commenced, on which account all Ryuts, as are above enumerated, are directed to cultivate their lands and pursue their respective occupations in peace, and remain living in their habitations, conducting themselves properly. In the past dispute regarding the right to the Chieftainship, whatever part any

one may have taken, he will not on that account receive any molestation or injury, but all will be allowed to remain in peace.

(True translation)

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government,

To C. J. WHEELER, Esq., Assistant in Charge of the Residency at Baroda.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd of this month, forwarding a despatch from Mr. Willoughby, of the 19th, respecting the affairs of Rajpeepla.

2. The Honorable the Governor in Council entirely approves of Mr. Willoughby's proceedings as reported in his despatch, and desires that he will exercise his own judgment regarding the amount of the Nuzzur to be levied on the Raja's accession.

3. With respect to the appointment of a Photdar, the Honorable the Governor in Council requests that Mr. Willoughby will transmit a detailed plan in regard to the proposed arrangement, to enable the Governor in Council to consider the terms.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 30th November 1821.

REPORT ON THE RESOURCES, &c.
OF THE
RAJPEPLA STATE;

BY
MR. J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
ASSISTANT TO THE RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated the 19th January 1822.

AND
CORRESPONDENCE CONNECTED THEREWITH.

REPORT ON THE RESOURCES, &c. OF THE RAJPEEPLA STATE.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 29th September 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches* of the 23rd of August and 11th of this month, relative to Rajpeepla.

2. I have been instructed to express the satisfaction of the Governor in Council at the acquiescence of the Gaekwar in the desire of the British Government to undertake the management of Rajpeepla.

3. His Highness' present consent to that measure renders* all further discussion regarding the original intention of both parties in that respect unnecessary; as it is, however, more than probable that the Gaekwar will experience a great defalcation in his tribute, that point ought to be clearly understood before we enter on the control of the country.

4. Adverting on this occasion to Mr. Willoughby's report accompanying your despatch of the 18th of July last, I have to inform you, that it would have been acceptable to the Governor in Council, if you had added to the report a sketch of the measures best adapted to the government of the Principality by embodying Mr. Willoughby's suggestions, filling up the deficiencies, and accompanying the whole with your own sentiments on the subject. The want of such a statement compels the Governor in Council to leave some parts of the present instructions defective, but he relies on your discretion for supplying the want in the manner best suited to the public service.

5. The measure of setting up the son of Narsing, as recommended by Mr. Willoughby, is approved, equally with the promulgation of a proclamation of amnesty in the name of Verisal and that of the Gaekwar and of the Company; and it is authorised as far as depends on the British Government.

6. The engagement to be guided by our advice, should be taken from the Raja, as recommended by Mr. Willoughby.

7. In respect to the appointment of a Manager of Rajpeepla, the Governor in Council leaves the selection to you, as the best judge of the person who

* Vide pages 499 to 504 of this Selection.

ought to be chosen for the office; but great attention must be paid to the opinion of Narsing, and care should be taken that the person who may be selected may have weight sufficient to maintain a strong Government and to repress disorders.

8. The Governor in Council approves of the provisions recommended for Purtaub Sing and Narsing. You will be pleased to fix the amount with a due regard as well to the rank of those personages as to the pressing exigencies of the State.

9. I have the honour to convey the direction of the Governor in Council that you depute Mr. Willoughby to Rajpeepla, for the purpose of putting the Government in motion. He should take that opportunity of inquiring into the Gaekwar's claims, and report the result, which you will likewise examine, and forward with your opinion in detail, for the decision of the Governor in Council.

10. If, however, a compromise can be speedily effected on reasonable terms, between the Rajpeepla Government and the Gaekwar, without a regular arbitration, it should be preferred. The mode of accomplishing the object must depend on Mr. Willoughby's inquiries, whilst the precedent that may be adduced of compromises that have been made by the Gaekwar of pecuniary claims on the Government may be advanced in support of such an arrangement.

11. The tribute must in future be paid entirely through you.

12. The internal management of the country, whether by farming or directly by the agency of the Government, will be best settled in communication with the Manager, when one shall be appointed.

13. The Governor in Council is desirous of receiving, at the earliest period, as correct a report of the receipts and disbursements as can be procured, detailing the various sources of revenue and the establishments of all kinds to be kept up by the Rajpeepla Government, their expenses, and the application of the balance.

14. It is extremely desirable that the question of the mode in which the Bheels are to be managed should also engage the fullest attention, and be reported on for the instructions of the Government. Every expedient that promises to reclaim their habits by a just and conciliatory treatment, should be preferred.

15. On the receipt of your report, the decision on the propriety of withdrawing the Gaekwar troops will depend. They should be withdrawn the moment the Raja is capable of preserving the public tranquillity without their assistance; but no British detachment can be calculated on, as it is improbable that any can be spared. You will be pleased to report, however, in communication with Mr. Willoughby, the strength of the detachment you would recommend to be maintained for preserving the tranquillity of the Rajpeepla principality.

16. I have the honour to transmit to you an extract, paras. 127 and 141, from a despatch to the Honourable Court, and of its reply, regarding Tora Geeras claims of Rajpeepla on the Broach Purguna, of the whole of which it is desirable that you should arrange with the proprietors for payments from the treasury at such period as may best suit their convenience, instead of admitting of their being realized from the villages. Should you require any further information on the subject of these claims, you will apply to the Collector of Broach.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 29th September 1821.

No. 252 OF 1821.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 29th ultimo, relative to Rajpeepla.

2. In conformity with the instructions of Government, Mr. Willoughby has proceeded to Rajpeepla, to carry into effect the objects pointed out in your letter.

3. I have the honour to annex copy of the instructions I have issued to that gentleman, the tenor of which, I trust will meet with the approbation of the Honorable the Governor in Council.

4. The only remark which occurs to me to make, is upon the deviation I have made from the instructions contained in the 15th paragraph of your letter now under reply, relative to the withdrawal of the Gaekwar troops.

5. I have learnt that the troops now in the service of the Raja are fully adequate at once to take possession of the country, with every prospect of being able to preserve its peace and tranquillity.

6. I have, therefore, directed Mr. Willoughby to enforce the order of the Gaekwar Government, contained in its Choor Chittees, directing the Gaekwar force to retire to its Thanna at Roond.

7. I trust this measure will be approved of, as, independent of the jealousy with which the Raja would be likely to view their remaining in the country after he is put in possession of it, the Gaekwar Government will in all probability call upon him to disburse the expense it would incur incident to their remaining in the country.

8. I beg you will inform the Honorable the Governor in Council that I

have obtained an engagement from the Raja, to be entirely guided by the advice given to him by the British Government upon every subject relating to the affairs of his Government. Copy and translation of this document are annexed.

9. I experienced considerable difficulty in procuring from His Highness the Gaekwar the Choor Chittees for the release of the country, as he wished me, on the part of the British Government, to become security that the whole amount of his tribute at present collected should be enjoyed in future, as well as that the whole of the enormous debt brought against the Rajpeepla State should be liquidated.

10. I am, however, happy to state, that I obtained them on the 27th instant, after a long discussion, without giving him any stipulation of the above nature, but merely generally assuring him that his tribute and debt would both be hereafter settled in reference to the ability of the State, and in conformity with the instructions I might hereafter receive from the Bombay Government.

11. In conclusion, I have the honour to request the favourable consideration of Government to the subject adverted to in the concluding paragraph of my letter of instructions to Mr. Willoughby.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 30th October 1821.

No. 249 of 1821.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant to the Resident, Baroda.

Dated the 28th October 1821.

SIR,—I have the honour to request you will take the earliest opportunity of proceeding to Rajpeepla, and to furnish you with the following instructions for your guidance in performing the objects for which you are deputed into that Principality.

2. You are aware that the Gaekwar Government has relinquished its control in that province, which is vested in the British Government, upon the same principles nearly as the control of its tributaries in Kattywar and Mahee Kanta.

3. The justice of setting up Verisal, the son of Narsing, as Raja of the country, having been fully established by the investigation made by yourself last year, the British Government, as well as that of the Gaekwar, have consented to such a measure being immediately carried into effect.

4. You will, therefore, upon your arrival in the country, issue proclamations proclaiming that person to be the Raja of the country.

5. You are likewise authorised to promulgate proclamations, couched in the terms you have suggested, promising a general oblivion of the past, in the name of Verisal and that of the Gaekwar and British Governments.

6. I have been instructed by Government to appoint a Manager of Rajpeepla, to conduct its affairs during the minority of Verisal; and relying upon the favourable representation you have made of the character and abilities of Purvoodas, the present Karbarce of Narsing, you are authorised to nominate him to that responsible situation, provided that the same is in consonance with the wishes of Narsing (whom you must privately consult on the subject), and that he furnishes the written engagement you have proposed.

7. The settlement of the provisions you have recommended to be made for Narsing and the ex-claimant Partaub Sing are approved of; but as the inquiries you will have to make regarding the resources and expenses of the State will furnish better data upon which to decide what their amount respectively should be, than I am at present in possession of, I shall delay doing so until the result of those inquiries is made known. You will, however, be pleased to report your views on these points.

8. The Gaekwar troops at present stationed in Rajpeepla, have been directed to return to the Thanna stationed in Roond by this Government; and you will take measures to replace them by the Raja's troops, as soon as practicable after your arrival in the country.

9. Having accomplished the above objects of your deputation, you will proceed, in concert with the authorities of Rajpeepla, upon the laborious task of investigating the heavy debts with which the State is oppressed, and report the result at length, for my information, and the subsequent decision of Government.

10. The debts, which ought to claim your first attention, are those stated to be due from the State to the Gaekwar Government. I take this opportunity of enclosing you a memorandum, furnished me by the Gaekwar Government, from which you will perceive, the gross amount of the debt with interest is stated to be Rupees 18,76,246-2-87½.

11. You will enter upon the most minute and careful investigation of this debt, and report what, as nearly as can be ascertained, in your opinion, is the just amount; when it will afterwards be matter of consideration what deduction ought to be made in justice to the tributary State.

12. To assist you in the above inquiry, I have called upon this Government to furnish me with a detailed account of this debt, and the manner in which it has accumulated, which I shall lose no time in transmitting to you as soon as I am able.

13. I have likewise called upon this Government to furnish me with detailed accounts of the collections it has made from the country during the period

it has been under its management and control, which will be likewise transmitted to you. It is to be anticipated that these will be very incorrect, and it will therefore be a part of your duty to compare them with the accounts you may be able to obtain on the spot, which may be procured either by assembling the principal Desaees and Patels of each Purguna at Nandod, or by your again visiting the several Purgunas and examining the village accounts.

14. You can adopt whichever of these modes you may deem most advisable and expedient; but the latter would appear to be the most desirable in one respect, viz. that it would restore confidence to the inhabitants of the country and convince them of the determination of the British Government to do justice to all parties.

15. You will observe, that the Gaekwar Government have included in the above sum, the amount advanced in March 1820, by certain Shroffs at Baroda, under the Bhandaree of the British Government, for the payment of the Seebundy employed on account of Rajpeepla.

16. The Raja will of course, in justice, demand that this part of the debt should be likewise examined and audited as well as the others, to which no just objection can possibly be urged on the part of the Gaekwar, on the score of our Bhandaree having been given to the Shroffs who advanced the money at the request of the Gaekwar Government.

17. By the above act, the British Government became security that the Shroffs should receive the sum they advanced back again from the Gaekwar's Government, but not that the Gaekwar Government should receive that sum from the Rajpeepla State, as it would be a strange supposition to conceive that the British Government would become guarantee for a debt said to be due to one power from another, without any examination taking place, but merely upon the assertion of the former.

18. I take this opportunity of furnishing you with copy of a memorandum given me by His Highness the Gaekwar, in addition to the one enumerating the debt due to him from the Rajpeepla Government.

19. I have merely replied to it that the different points to which it relates will be inquired into and reported upon by you, and will hereafter be settled upon principles of equity and justice. You will therefore inquire and report upon each separately, as soon as you are able.

20. Having investigated the above debt, you will proceed to examine and report upon all other debts claimed against the State by individuals on any pretext whatever, either by persons who have had any part in the management of the country, or by others who may have advanced money to Narsing during the time he was struggling to obtain the rights he had been unjustly dispossessed of, or subsequent to his coming to Baroda.

21. In many cases, you may be able to propose and carry into effect

compromises with this class of creditors favourable to the Raja and his State; but in doing so you must carefully avoid making any promises of their debts being speedily paid off, so as to render it more difficult than it is at present to put the just dues of the Gaekwar Government in a train of liquidation, which is to be the chief and paramount consideration.

22. Before any plan is adopted for the paying off the amount of the debts which may eventually be proved to be justly due by the Rajpeepla Government, you must draw out as correct an estimate of its receipts and disbursements as can be framed, exhibiting the various sources of revenue it at present enjoys, as well as the establishments of all kinds you may deem it necessary, in concert with the Manager, to be kept up in Rajpeepla, with their expense, which, it is quite unnecessary for me to observe, should be formed upon principles of the strictest economy, keeping however in view that they should be quite sufficient to preserve the public peace and tranquillity of the country, and to repress all disorders which may incidentally occur, as more injury will eventually be sustained by the State from pursuing a system of too strict economy, and in consequence leaving the Government in a state unable to pursue a strong and vigorous rule over its subjects, than benefit will be temporarily gained by it by a lesser expense incurred on account of establishments.

23. The above information having been obtained as accurately as possible, assignments may then be made upon the balance remaining, in liquidation of the public debt.

24. The tribute which may eventually be settled to be annually paid to the Gaekwar, will in future be paid entirely through me; but as the Gaekwar Government appear to have advanced a larger claim than it may prove justly entitled to, you will report fully on this subject, and state your opinion what it may be justly entitled to. It will then remain to be decided if any further abatement is to be made in it, and the Raja must then be required to furnish good security for its punctual payment annually in future.

25. Regarding the internal management of the country, instructions will be issued hereafter by Government, grounded upon the result of the inquiries you have been directed to institute. It will, however, be advisable for you to report your views upon this point also.

26. A considerable part of Rajpeepla being almost entirely inhabited by Bheels, a caste notorious for their plundering and turbulent habits, it will be necessary to adopt some plan, as conciliatory as can be chosen, to restrain these, and make them, if possible, a peaceable and industrious class of society.

27. With this view you will be pleased to report the mode by which the Rajas of Rajpeepla, in its state of prosperity, were accustomed to manage them, and to enforce obedience to their commands; as it would perhaps be expedient to adopt a plan grounded something upon similar principles as the

one formerly in use, with such modifications, however, as Government in its wisdom may deem proper to direct.

28. The communication you held when last in Rajpeepla with several of the principal Bheel Wussawas of the country, will prove of considerable advantage to you in performing this part of your duty; and I would recommend your taking every opportunity of encouraging and cultivating as intimate an acquaintance with this class of people as possible, conceiving that such will eventually tend to restore peace to the country, by withdrawing them from the plundering and lawless occupations many are now pursuing, to that of cultivation and the peaceful arts.

29. As many of the Bheel Chiefs allege in excuse for their crimes that they have been unjustly deprived of certain rights and privileges, you will, when time will allow you, inquire and report upon these; and I have no doubt, in all cases where they are able to substantiate them, Government will think right to confirm and secure them in the possession of them.

30. Amongst this latter class is, I believe, the notorious freebooter Koor Wussawa, whose claims, if he consents to submit to the arbitration, you will investigate: should he, however, refuse his assent to the above equitable proposition, you will renew the endeavours you made last year to surprise him and subdue him by force of arms, which you may have an opportunity of effecting by means of the Detachment which will be sent with you, aided by the assistance of the troops now in the service of the Raja.

31. You will also be pleased to address a letter, in the terms you have suggested, to the person alluded to in your memorandum, by name Bajee Dounir, residing in the district of Tulluckwara; and after investigating the claims he advances against the Rajpeepla State, report the same, with your opinion upon them, for the ultimate decision of Government.

32. I have the honour to enclose the Choor Chittees given me by this Government, for the giving up of the country to the son of Narsing, in virtue of which, you are aware, that upon your arrival in the country, all authority now enjoyed by the Manager placed there on the part of the Gaekwar will cease, which must be immediately assumed by you in the name of the Raja.

33. The measure you have recommended, of a British detachment being temporarily stationed in Rajpeepla to assist the newly established Government in preserving its tranquillity, is not yet determined upon; for although such an arrangement would appear to be a very desirable and beneficial one, yet, from the great demand at present existing for their services elsewhere, it is not very probable that any will be available for this purpose. As, however, this is not certain, you will state your opinion what should be the strength of the detachment, and the expense which would be incurred by the Raja in maintaining it.

34. Another point to which your attention is to be directed is the Geeras rights the Rajpeepla Government possesses upon the territories belonging to the Honorable Company, which are to be carefully and minutely inquired into, and having ascertained the just amount, you are to adopt the plan pointed out in your memorandum, viz. to provide in future for its being paid from the treasury, instead of its being (as was formerly the custom) collected from the villages by the proprietor himself.

35. The Geeras rights enjoyed by the Rajpeepla Government from that of the Gaekwar Government, must also be inquired into, when it will be taken into consideration whether your recommendation that they should be relinquished in perpetuity (a corresponding deduction being made in the annual tribute to be paid by the former to the latter) is expedient, or whether any more preferable plan can be adopted.

36. You will likewise inquire into the rights of all individual Geerasias residing in Rajpeepla, and if possible persuade them to consent to receive a money payment from the treasury in lieu of collecting their rights from the villages upon which Geeras is due.

37. Should you, in performing this part of your duty, find it necessary to call for any information you may require, you will, to avoid delay, correspond direct with the proper authorities, forwarding copies of your correspondence for my information and that of Government.

38. I have now, I believe, touched upon every point upon which it is necessary to give you general instructions ; in addition to which, I have the honour to annex copies of two letters to my address from the Chief Secretary to the Bombay Government, dated the 2nd August and 29th of September last, on the same subject, from the first of which you will perceive what great satisfaction the Honorable the Governor in Council has expressed incident to the receipt of your memorandum regarding the country of Rajpeepla.

39. I have requested Colonel Corsellis to order a party of 150 rank and file, under a European officer, entirely equipped for field service, to proceed with you to Rajpeepla, provided with the necessary supply of spare ammunition.

40. Wittoba Pillajee, and Ramrao Purshotum, the two persons who attended you in the capacity of Karkoons on your former visit to Rajpeepla, will be directed to attend you now, drawing the allowances that were then sanctioned by Government ; and you are authorised to entertain a Purvoo during your absence from Baroda.

41. Being aware that you were subjected to very considerable pecuniary loss by the newly established rate of deputation allowance not proving adequate to cover the heavy, but at the same time necessary, expenses you were subject to by your former trip to Rajpeepla, I shall not fail to bring the same to the notice of Government, which I have no doubt will, in its

liberality, grant you such additional allowance as it may deem adequate for the above purpose.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 28th October 1821.

Translation of an Agreement entered into by Maharana Verisuljee, Raja of Rajppeepla, and James Williams, Esq., Resident at Baroda, on the part of the Honorable Company.



My representation is as follows:—I have received possession of my country from the Gaekwar Government, but I am certain that without the aid of the British Government I shall not be able to make its settlement. Therefore I myself and my father, both of us, of our own desire, do agree to act upon everything relating to the settlement of all the affairs of my country in conformity with the advice of the Honorable Company. Whatever may be the desire of the Government, I will act according to it. In conformity with this agreement, whoever may be Chieftain of the country from generation to generation, he will act. Dated Sumvut 1878 Assavudee, *i. e.* reckoning from the month of Assar Aswin Sood the 15th, corresponding with October the 11th, A. D. 1821.

Signature of the Raja.

(True translation)

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From C. NORRIS, Esq., Acting Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated the 23rd September 1820.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Secretary Henderson's letter of the 26th July last, with enclosures.

2. His Highness the Gaekwar has consented, after some hesitation, to a commutation of the fees collected by Jeeva Wassawa in the Gaekwar Purgunas for a money payment; and I have the honour to enclose an order from this

Government, upon the Sirsoobah of the Surat Attaveesy, to fix, in concert with Captain Briggs, the sum to be paid every year to Jeeva upon that account.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. NORRIS, Acting Resident.

Baroda Residency, 23rd September 1820.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 16th February 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose copy of Mr. Willoughby's letter to my address of the 10th instant, submitting a statement of the expenses of the Government of Rajpeepla which appear to him indispensable, not however including any provision for Soorujkoor or Purtaub Sing.

2. The amount collectively of these charges is Rs. 90,066 annually. According to Mr. Willoughby's report of the 19th ultimo upon the resources of Rajpeepla, the total revenue only amounts to..... Rs. 2,29,278 2 75 From which the above charges.....Rs. 90,066

are to be deducted, as also on account of

tribute, say..... 75,000

Provision for Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing.. 8,400

1,73,466 0 0

Leaving applicable to the liquidation of debts, &c. only.. Rs. 55,812 2 75

My reason for setting down the pensions for Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing at Rs. 8,400 annually, or Rs. 700 per mensem, is that the Gaekwar Government allowed that sum to Narsing for his expenses; and considering that the lady is also in the enjoyment of the produce of two villages, it is in my opinion amply sufficient.

3. The prospect of this petty State being freed from its incumbrances is rendered sufficiently remote from the above statement; but that should not discourage the hope of the eventual attainment of this desirable object. A steady adherence to the principles laid down for the better government of this country will, in a few years, no doubt cause an increase of revenue. To insure, however, the certainty of the present system being closely followed up, an occasional superintendence will be required on the part of the British Government. We may fairly calculate that many villages now deserted will be repeopled; that land now uncultivated will again yield produce. The opening of the ancient road for merchandize through Sagbarra will also produce an increase in the customs, and, as no additional charges are contemplated, the State may perhaps have some chance of being in the end freed from all incumbrances.

4. I have attentively considered the several items of charges in the Nem-nook or statement of the proposed annual expenses, and cannot perceive any reason for desiring a modification: they are evidently framed upon as reduced a scale as is compatible with the comfort of the family; the respectability and efficiency of the Government. One article strikes me as being rather too much in the scale of parsimony, and likely to defeat the end we have in view. I allude to the allowance to Purvoodas the Minister, on whose exertions and honesty in a great degree the well-doing of the State depends; and therefore, in lieu of the sum of Rs. 200 per mensem, or annually Rs. 2,400, I would suggest that his salary be fixed at not less than Rs. 300 or Rs. 3,600, in order that he may be tempted by the largeness of his emoluments to endeavour to be honest at least; to insure us from any very gross corruption on his part, he has other advantages to the amount of Rs. 1,000 or 1,500 yearly. This will cause a further reduction, from the amount applicable to the discharge of debts, of Rs. 1,200, leaving only Rs. 54,612-2-75.

5. The pay to the cavalry and infantry of the State is very moderate, they consisting of Sindees and Arabs, whose rate of pay is always much higher than the natives of the country, who perhaps would not perform the duties expected from them with the same uncompromising disposition as these foreigners. The allowance to Kooer Wussawa, of Rs. 1,500 annually, must be considered as well bestowed, that Chieftain inhabiting a part of the country where it is most desirable to insure tranquillity, which will mainly depend upon his conduct.

6. The objection of Narsing, mentioned by Mr. Willoughby, to the provision of Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing being drawn out in the name of the latter, can be easily obviated by causing the style of the instrument to run as follows:—"The title to the Gadee of Rajpeepla having been decided to appertain of right to Verisal the son of Narsing, a certain sum is allowed to Soorujkoor, the widow of Ramsing, for the maintenance of herself and the boy called Purtaub Sing." Specifying in the grant how much either of them are to receive, which will prevent any dispute arising in the event of the demise of the lady, when Verisal would probably wish to resume the whole, should it be simply written out in the name of Soorujkoor. Respecting the proposed provision for the brothers of Verisal, I see no reason for any separate maintenance being granted to them; the allowances to the Raja and Narsing must be considered sufficient at least until the State shall have advanced rather more in the stage of improvement.

7. In the 13th paragraph of Mr. Willoughby's letter, mention is made of the re-imbursement of the British Government for the expenses incurred in reorganizing the State. I would fain hope that Government will consider themselves as amply repaid in the peace and security which their own subjects now enjoy by the settlement of Rajpeepla, and that the pleasing reflection of

their influence having been so happily exercised in releasing a State stretching from the Taptee to the Nerbudda nearly 60 miles and separating the British possessions in Kandeish from those in Guzerat, which, before we interfered, was suffering under every species of oppression, affording a refuge to the outlaws and vagabonds of our own districts, and rapidly approximating to the situation of the district on the northern frontier, which, by the same enlightened policy, have been reclaimed from a state even more deplorable, will be considered as the most gratifying species of reimbursement which a Government could possibly receive.

I have, &c.

Baroda Residency, 16th February 1822.

J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident, Baroda,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 10th February 1822.

SIR,—With reference to the concluding paragraph of my letter to your address dated the 19th ultimo,* I have now the honour to transmit the draft of a Nemnook, which it appears to me to be requisite at the present moment to fix, for the annual ordinary expenses of this Government, amounting altogether to Rs. 7,505 monthly, or Rs. 90,060 yearly, and to submit the same for your consideration.

2. The first item, amounting to Rs. 1,250 monthly, or Rs. 15,000 annually, is the sum that it is proposed should be allowed to the Raja for his own personal expenses, and will not, I think, be considered to be more than will be sufficient to meet these, even with every proper degree of economy.

3. The second item of Rs. 1,000 monthly, or Rs. 12,000 annually, is the sum proposed to be fixed as that which shall be granted to Narsing. This is certainly as low in amount as can well be fixed, either with reference to his past misfortunes, or to the situation of relationship in which he stands to the Raja.

4. The third item of Rs. 583-1-33½ monthly, or Rs. 7,000 yearly, is the sum fixed for the Karbarees and Karkoons of all descriptions who will be necessarily employed by the Government, and includes also several small pensions granted to a few persons who have become old and nearly worn out in the service of Narsing. Its amount will prove that it has been calculated with the strictest economy, and I shall only further observe, that of it Rs. 2,400, or nearly one-third, is proposed to be fixed as the future annual allowance of Purvoodas, the Karbaree.

5. The three succeeding items are those which will be incurred by this Government on account of its military establishments of all kinds, which it appears requisite for it to maintain, if not permanently, at least for some time to come,

* Vide page 531 of this Selection.

in order to preserve the peace and quiet of the country subject to its authority. These amount to 100 horse, 225 foot (composed of Arab, Sindian, and other castes), and 60 Kusbatees, who may be termed village guards. The pay of the horse has been fixed at Rs. 20 each per mensem, making the amount of the whole to be Rs. 2,000 monthly, or Rs. 24,000 annually; the pay of the foot at Rs. 8 each per mensem, aggregating Rs. 1,800 monthly, or Rs. 21,600 yearly, and that of the Kusbatees at Rs. 3 each monthly, or altogether Rs. 180 monthly, or Rs. 2,160 yearly; the grand total forming a monthly expense of Rs. 3,980, and an annual one of Rs. 47,760. The pay of these different descriptions of troops is as low as can well be fixed, especially when we take into consideration the customary deductions which will be made at the time they receive their pay from the Government Potdar. The number of each kind also is certainly as small either as the extent of the country (the extreme length of which is about 60 koss, and its breadth varying from 30 to 45 koss) whose peace it will have to maintain, or the plundering and restless habits of the Bheels, who compose a great part of its population, will require.

6. The two succeeding items are the monthly allowances which have been granted to the persons who have undertaken the business of Potdar to this State, and which I reported in my letter dated the 4th instant had been granted to the Bheel Chief Kooer Wussawa, the former amounting to Rs. 150, and the latter to Rs. 125 monthly, respectively, or Rs. 1,800 and Rs. 1,500 annually.

7. The concluding item, or Rs. 416-2-66½ monthly, and Rs. 5,000 annually, is proposed to be fixed as the sum to be allowed for Sadi Khurch or contingent expenses. This is rendered necessary as no separate sums have been fixed for charity, the entertainment of strangers, and incidental necessary expenses of this nature.

8. The above Nemnook embraces, I believe, every ordinary expense which this State will, under ordinary circumstances, incur, with the exception of a provision for Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing. Other unlooked for expenses may be requisite, such as the necessity of entertaining more troops on any emergency, a marriage or death occurring in the Raja's family, &c. &c., which are not of course included. It will also be hereafter requisite to fix a suitable provision upon the young Raja's two brothers, the eldest of whom is now residing at Chota Oodepoor, and is about seven years of age; the youngest is at Nandod, an infant of about three months old. It is unnecessary to fix any further provision upon the female branches of the Raja's family, each of whom, according to the custom of the country, possesses two villages assigned for her maintenance for life.

9. I am directed to report upon the amount of a provision to be fixed for the ex-claimant Purtaub Sing; but having furnished, in my letter dated the 19th ultimo, the necessary data for settling this point, I would rather decline

naming any particular sum to be set aside for this purpose. In conversing with Narsing upon the subject of my letter generally, I of course alluded to the case of Purtaub Sing, and told him a provision would be given him from the revenues of his son's Government. To this he assented, at the same time making two observations, which struck me as natural, and worthy of some consideration. The first, that he trusted the Nemnook would be drawn out in the name of Soorujkoor, and not in that of Purtaub Sing, and the second that he hoped that it would be made with reference to the condition of Rajpeepla, and that it would not be so large as that which might be fixed for himself.

10. The reason of his first request was to prevent the possibility of any future claims being advanced by Purtaub Sing, or his descendants, to succeed to the Rajpeepla Gadee; and when I remarked to him that there was no necessity of such caution being observed, he replied the same argument might be used in the case of the adopted son of the late Futtch Sing Gaekwar. The reason for the second request was, he expressed himself, that his dignity would be impaired if a larger provision, or equal one, was granted to the son of an obscure Geerasia as to himself, who, were it not for his misfortune of blindness, would be the present possessor and ruler of the whole country.

11. I told him in reply that I would make known both his requests to Government; but at the same time I observed that he ought not, in justice, merely to consider the low origin of his former rival, but to pay some attention to the hopes and expectations which, from his birth, and not from any treachery or fraud committed on his own part, he had been led to entertain of his future station and rank in life, which was a point, which I had no doubt, whether he viewed it lightly or not, would materially affect the amount which might eventually be fixed upon.

12. It now therefore remains for Government, in its pleasure, to decide whether these requests shall be acceded to. In the case of Soorujkoor, it must be observed, that as far as custom is concerned, she is only entitled to enjoy the two villages of Syler and Vulees, which were formerly assigned for her support. It would, however, be but fair that a small proportion of the Nemnook should be settled upon her; and it would appear advisable that the whole should in future be paid at Baroda from the Residency treasury regularly, and perhaps without the usual Potdaree deductions.

13. It must in conclusion be observed, that I have not as yet taken into consideration any reimbursement it may be thought reasonable to demand from this State on account of the expenses which have been, or may be, actually incurred by the Honorable Company for the disinterested part it has taken in its affairs, which I shall have the honour to remark upon when I am able to fulfil that part of your instructions relating to the expediency of a detachment of Sepoys remaining for a short period to aid in preserving the peace and quiet of Rajpeepla.

14. I shall also delay proposing assignments upon the amount of revenue expected to be realized during this year from Rajpeepla, until the Nemnook for its expenses now forwarded has been approved of, or I am informed of any modifications it may be deemed necessary to make in the different items composing it.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Camp Nanded, 10th February 1822.

Statement exhibiting a Nemnook proposed to be fixed for the future Annual Ordinary Expenses of the Rajpeepla State, but not including the Provision to be settled upon Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing, or any Extraordinary Expenses circumstances may render it absolutely necessary additionally to incur.

No.	Names of the different Items.	Monthly Amount of each.		Annual Amount of each.	Remarks.
		Rs. q. r.	Rs. q. r.		
1	Nemnook fixed for the personal expenses of Maharana Verisal	1,250 0 0	0	15,000 0 0	{ Vide 2nd para. of my letter of this date. (Page 527).
2	Nemnook fixed for the expenses of Narsing.	1,000 0 0	0	12,000 0 0	Vide 3rd ditto ditto.
3	Nemnook fixed for the expenses of the Karkarees and Karkoons employed by the Government	583 1 33½		7,000 0 0	Vide 4th ditto ditto.
4	100 Sowars, at Rs. 20 each per mensem ..	2,000 0 0	0	24,000 0 0	{ Vide 5th ditto ditto.
5	225 Peedass, at Rs. 8 each per mensem ..	1,800 0 0	0	21,600 0 0	
6	60 Kusbatees, at Rs. 3 each per mensem ..	180 0 0	0	2,160 0 0	
7	Allowance granted to the Government Potdar	150 0 0	0	1,800 0 0	Vide my letter dated the 6th Dec. last.
8	Nemnook granted to the Bheel Chief Koor Wussawa	125 0 0	0	1,500 0 0	Vide ditto of 4th instant.
9	Sadi Khurch, or contingencies	416 2 66¾		5,000 0 0	Vide 7th para. of ditto of this date. (Page 528).
	Total	7,505 0 0	0	90,060 0 0	

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

(True copy) C. J. WHEELER, Second Assistant.

Camp Nanded, 10th February 1822.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 28th February 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 16th of this month, forwarding one from Mr. Willoughby of the 10th, exhibiting a statement of the expenses of the Government of Rajpeepla.

2. The Honorable the Governor in Council approves of your proceedings as reported in that despatch.

3. The demand of payment for our expenses need not be relinquished, nor yet enforced.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 28th February 1822.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to hand up, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, Mr. Willoughby's despatch and several enclosures, exhibiting a full and detailed account of the present resources of the Rajpeepla State, and the manner in which the assessment for the present year has been made of its revenue. The ability and preciseness with which each particular circumstance has been treated, joined to the indefatigable application and study exercised throughout, reflects great credit on his exertions, and I feel confident the point of view in which they are now displayed will meet the approbation of the Honorable the Governor.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident at Baroda.

Baroda Residency, 5th February 1822.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 19th January 1822.

SIR,—I have now the honour, in pursuance of the directions contained in the 22nd paragraph of your letter to my address dated the 28th of October last, to report, as fully as I am able, upon the nature and extent of the present resources of the Rajpeepla State, which will also include a general account of the manner in which the assessment of its revenue for the present year has been made.

2. Enclosure No. 1 exhibits a general abstract of these resources, from which it will be observed, that their total amount, as nearly as they can now be estimated, will be for the present year Rs. 2,29,278-2-73, to which, however,

is added the further sum of Rs. 50,000, which the Potdar established by this Government has agreed to advance (if required), beyond its regular receipts, aggregating with the above item Rs. 2,79,278-2-73.

3. The first item of the above statement, amounting to Rs. 1,26,056-1-50, is the total amount of revenue assessed this year upon the ten lower Purgunas of this State; and in explanation of it the statement marked A No. 1 has been drawn out, showing the different proportions of the above sum fixed upon each of these Purgunas respectively. Before, however, I proceed to make any observations upon this statement, I shall endeavour to explain the plan which has been pursued in the settlement of this year's revenue, with a view to ensure, as far as circumstances would admit, every Purguna and every village being assessed to the extent of, but not beyond, its ability.

4. The present impoverished and very reduced state of the country, added to the pressing and urgent demands and pecuniary embarrassments of its Government, rendered it rather a difficult task to settle the revenue of this year upon such principles as would at one and the same time embrace two objects very dissimilar and directly opposite in their nature to each other—1st, the realizing such an amount as would, in some degree, be proportionate to the wants of the State, and 2nd, such an amount only as would not much distress or overburthen the Ryutry, which of necessity rendered it obligatory to make very large abatements in the amount levied from them of late years, when under the control and management of the Gaekwar Government. Both these objects have been kept in view, for, as on the one hand it was obvious that the Government could not long prosperously exist without the funds necessary to enable it to meet its expenses, so on the other hand it was equally manifest that no hope could reasonably be entertained of the condition of the country being ever improved or its resources increased, by pursuing the same system of exaction and over-assessment as was followed during the late period alluded to. The dissimilarity of the above objects would not admit of any one general plan being adopted. The system of farming the different Purgunas to the highest bidder might probably have produced a larger amount of revenue for the present year, but would have consigned the Ryuts to the rapacity and exaction of the farmers, always greedy to realize the amount they may have paid for their farm with additional profit: thus one of the objects in view would have been disregarded and considerable diminution would eventually have taken place in the resources of the coming year. The system of assessing each village according to different rates of assessment, in reference to the quantity and fertility of its cultivated land, could not invariably be followed, as such a mode, from the small proportion of land this year under cultivation, would have produced a sum quite inadequate to meet the demands of the Government. The plan, therefore, which appeared to me to be the most

likely partially to attain both objects, was to ascertain the amount of the collections of each village for ten years, and to take the average as the basis of the present year's settlement. Even this mode could not, however, invariably be adopted, in consequence of the very great difference which exists in the condition of the several Purgunas and villages, some being either entirely waste, or nearly so, some involved more deeply than others in debts both public and private, and others, from contrary causes, in comparatively speaking a flourishing and prosperous situation. These points have met with due attention, and, it will be observed, considerable remissions have been made in the average amount of the ten years in the cases of villages of the first class, and additions made in those of the second class, which are, however, I am sorry to say, but few in number. By carefully making these modifications, the whole pressure of the public burthen will be sustained as nearly as is practicable by all alike, equally and impartially. The period selected for obtaining the average sought for, was (with the exception of a few instances, which will be pointed out as I proceed) five years during the reign of Ajebsing, or from Sumvut 1854 (A. D. 1796) to Sumvut 1858 (A. D. 1800), and five years of the Gaekwar's rule, or from Sumvut 1873 (A. D. 1816-17) to Sumvut 1877 (A. D. 1820-21); the whole of the first period and the first year of the second being favourable to the Ryutry from the assessments being small, and the remaining four years of the second period being, from the contrary cause, favourable to the Government, by which selection both objects in view were attained.

5. In order the more clearly to elucidate the above arrangement, I must now beg leave to refer you to the settlement, marked for the sake of easy reference B No. 1, which has been framed explanatory of the manner in which the first item of A No. 1, amounting to Rs. 45,096-2-0 has been distributed amongst the villages of the Nandod Purguna. This district consists of forty-four villages, of which twenty-five are Government villages, included in the settlement of the revenue of the Purguna. Three others also belong to Government, but are *Chotuck* or assessed separately from the others, the reason for which will hereafter be explained; three belong to the Gaekwar Government; and the remaining eleven are *Doomula*, or villages held by individuals under different tenures. It is the only Purguna which, at the present moment, can be said to be in any tolerable state of cultivation and population, a circumstance not to be attributed to less oppression having been exercised over its inhabitants, or from the exactions levied from them having been less than those levied from the other districts of Rajpeepla. In these respects it has not been favoured, but Nandod having been the capital of the district, and as such attracting the greater part of the wealthy classes of society, the circulation of their riches afforded to the inhabitants of the Purguna generally greater ability to meet the heavy demands made upon them by the Government. The statement above alluded to exhibits, 1st, the

names of the twenty-five villages of the first class, as well as those of their respective Patels and Tulatees or accountants; 2nd, the collections made from each during the period selected, of the reign of Ajebsing; 3rd, the collections made from each for the last five years by the Gaekwar Government; 4th, the arrangement of the collections of those two periods combined; 5th, the remissions and additions made upon the average amount in the revenue of the present year; 6th, the amount of revenue to be paid by each for the present year, and the different Kists or instalments by which it is to be paid; 7th, the names of the Nishadars or persons who have become security for the Kists being regularly paid; 8th, the names of the Bhatts who have become security for the good conduct of the inhabitants of each; 9th, and lastly, a column of remarks explaining the reasons why any deviation has been made in the general rule adopted for the settlement of the whole Purguna.

6. The results of this table show, that during the first period selected, the collections amounted to Rs. 1,58,438-1-0, and during the last to Rs. 2,44,887-3-0, the latter exceeding the former by Rs. 86,449-2-0, and the average of both combined amounting to Rs. 41,371-3-91; that the total abatements made in the average of the ten years amount to Rs. 1,873-2-41, and additions to Rs. 4,642-2-50, making the *Uen Juma* the present year Rs. 44,051. To this sum, however, is to be added Rs. 1,055-2-0 on account of *Sivace Juma*, which is a separate levy, making the total revenue to amount to Rs. 45,096-2-0, the first item of A No. 1. The Kists are four in number, the three first being nearly equal in amount, but the last larger; an arrangement made in order to lessen the burthen imposed upon the Ryuts, by giving them a longer period to realize the revenue, and thus enabling them in a great measure to avoid the necessity of having recourse to money-lenders. The persons who have engaged to become security for the above sum are two wealthy and respectable Shroffs of Nandod, and I have no apprehension whatever that they will fail to fulfil the agreement they have entered into. As the nature of the *Fuel Zamin* security taken from each village is foreign to the subject of my present letter, I shall delay remarking upon it until I am enabled to report upon the measures which appear best calculated to preserve the future peace and quiet of the country, merely observing that Bhatt security has already been taken from most of the villages, in order to prevent the loss of time which would have occurred had I not taken advantage of the favourable opportunity which presented itself for my doing so in the general assembly of the Patels and Ryuts which took place for the purpose of settling their revenue.

7. I have now explained, as clearly as it is in my power, the manner in which the Nandod Purguna has been assessed, which will preclude the necessity of but few remarks upon that of the other Purgunas, which have all been settled

upon principles the same, but with a few variations in the details, which circumstances rendered requisite. It is, however, now necessary to state the measures which were taken to ascertain the actual resources and condition of every village before its revenue for this year was finally fixed.

8. It is perhaps needless to observe, that the information above mentioned could, for the most part, alone be sought for through the medium of Native agency; accordingly one of the first steps taken on my arrival in Rajpeeppla was to depute as trusty and qualified a person as could be met with, with the requisite number of assistants, into each of the Purgunas, with directions to make inquiries upon the following points connected with the condition of each village:—1st. To ascertain the *Ruckbah* or whole quantity of land belonging to each village; the proportion this year under cultivation; that waste, and that *Kadee Kotur* or land rendered unserviceable by rivers, nullas, and tanks, and including *Gochur* or grazing grounds. 2nd. The quantity of *Tulput* or Government land in each village; of this how much was *Kale* or black soil; how much was *Gorat* or light brown soil, and how much was *Morah* or stony and hilly ground; and at the same time dividing each of these into three further sub-divisions, separating the total amount of each into three classes with reference to their fertility and capability of production. 3rd. The quantity of *Nadi Bati* or ground cultivated in the bed of the River Nerbudda. 4th. The quantity of *Wanta* or Geerasia land. 5th. The quantity of *Khabudeea* land (specifying, 1st, the proportion of this which is *Pusaita* or land granted to Zaminsdars, Patels, &c. &c. in Inam; 2nd, the proportion of *Wazeefah* or land granted away in pensions during the time of the Moguls; 3rd, the proportion of *Vachun* or lands sold; and 4th, the proportion of *Udhaneeco* or land mortgaged). 6th. The quantity of *Butama-ne* or land at present enjoyed by persons having no right to it. 7th, and lastly, the number of houses in each village, in order to give some data for guessing the population of each.

9. Such were in part the instructions issued by this Government to the above persons, and provided they can be considered to have been executed with tolerable fidelity and diligence, every information that could be wished for relative to the present ability of each village to pay its proper share of the expenses of the State has been acquired. To ensure this desirable point, the precautionary measures were taken of requiring the Mehtas, prior to their proceeding upon the duty assigned to them, to furnish security for the faithful and implicit performance of their instructions, and of warning them of the consequences of suitable punishment following the detection of any fraud or deception having been committed, added to which the accounts of each village have been attested by the principal Patels and Tulatees, who hold themselves responsible for the correctness of the accounts they have rendered, and who

were also individually examined by myself on the same point. These measures, it may be presumed, have acted as a check against any very gross deceptions having been practised, but the little time which could be allowed for the information to be obtained in (owing to the advanced state of the season rendering it necessary that a speedy adjustment of the revenue should be effected) will not justify more confidence being placed in the results of the inquiries made, further than that they are, generally speaking, accurate and correct.

10. The statement marked C No. 1 will place, in a still more clear and satisfactory point of view than the above observations, the nature and extent of the inquiries which have been instituted. This table contains the results of the labours of the persons employed to ascertain the condition of the several villages in the Nandod Purguna, added to that of my own inquiries. Its results show, 1st, that the whole quantity of *Ruckbah* or land belonging to the twenty-eight Government villages in this Purguna is 16,153 Koombas and a fraction, of which about 10,167, or nearly two-thirds, is this year under cultivation, and the remainder either waste or *Kadee Kotur*; 2nd, it shows the total amount of the several sorts of *Tulput* land this year cultivated to be 4,831 Koombas, something less than a moiety of the whole quantity returned as cultivated; 3rd, the amount of *Wanta* or Geerasia land to be 724-3 Koombas; 4th, the total amount of the several kinds of *Khabudeea* land to be 4,474 Koombas, an amount very nearly equalling that of the Government land; 5th, the amount of *Butamunee* land to be 138-1- $\frac{1}{2}$ Koombas; 6th and lastly, the total number of houses to be 3,245, of which 1,278 comprises the Kusbah or Town of Nandod. It was in reference to this statement, and that containing the average amount of the 10 years' collections before observed upon, that the revenue of the Nandod Purguna has been fixed at Rs. 45,096-2-0 for the present year; and, although I cannot say its amount is so small as could have been wished, or in exact proportion to the ability of the Purguna, yet after it has been paid, a greater proportion of the fruits of the labour of its inhabitants will doubtless remain to them, than that which they have enjoyed in past years.

11. The second item contained in Statement A No. 1, or Rs. 16,758, is the revenue fixed for this year upon the Ponota or Wurreeta Purguna. This district is for the most part situated on the southern bank of the Nerbudda, and is adjoining to the district of Nandod. It consists of thirty-three villages, of which twenty-five belong to the Government, two are Chotuck, and the remaining six Doomala. Two tables, nearly similar to those I have already explained, have been drawn out, bearing reference to the Government villages of this Purguna. The first of these, marked D No. 1, differs from B No. 1 only so far that the average amount of the collections is taken for nine instead of

ten years, as I could not obtain any account of those made in this Purguna in Sunvut 1855 (or A. D. 1797). Its results show, that during the first period, the collections amounted to Rs. 62,530, and during the last to Rs. 1,38,158-2-0; the latter exceeding the former by Rs. 75,638-2-0, and the average of both combined amounting to Rs. 22,356-0-48½. The abatements made are Rs. 7,419-3-76½, and additions Rs. 495-3-28, leaving the revenue of the present year to be (exclusive of Rs. 1,000 on account of Sivaee Juma) Rs. 15,758. The Kists are four in number, and a respectable Bramin and Shroff residing in the Sinnor Purguna have become security for their punctual payment. For information upon minor points, I beg leave to refer you to the column of remarks and explanations.

12. The second statement referring to this Purguna and marked E No. 1, differs in no respect from that of C No. 1, but affords the most satisfactory proof of the necessity which existed for making so considerable a deduction in the average amount of the nine years' collections. Its results show that the *Ruckbah* attached to the twenty-seven Government villages is 21,718-3-2 Koombas, of which only 3,571, a proportion less than one-sixth of the whole, is this year cultivated, the remainder being waste or unfit for cultivation. The proportion of the above which is Government land, is about 1,285 Koombas, a little more than one-third of the whole; 435 Koombas is *Wanta*; and the remainder (with the exception of 18 Koombas unlawfully held) is *Khabudeea*. The total number of houses of twenty-four villages (three being waste) is 1,077. These results afford at once sufficient evidence of the reduced condition of the resources of this Purguna, and that with proper care they may in time be gradually increased and improved.

13. The third item of A No. 1, or Rs. 17,010-3-50, is the revenue of this year assessed upon the Bhalode, or (as it is sometimes called) the Aveeda Purguna. It is likewise situated on the banks of the Nerbudda, and adjoins the Wurreetee district. It consists of seventeen villages, all of which (with the exception of one which is *Doomala*) belong to the Government. Two tables, exactly corresponding to those already observed upon, are transmitted, bearing reference to this Purguna. The first of these marked F No. 1, shows that during the first period, the collections amounted to Rs. 1,01,308, and during the last to Rs. 1,43,804; the latter exceeding the former by Rs. 42,496, and the average of both being Rs. 24,860-0-17. It must be remarked here, that this average might at first sight appear erroneous, as it would not, if multiplied by ten, produce the exact amount of the ten years' collections, or Rs. 2,45,112. This circumstance, however, arises from the collections of one or two of the villages of this district not being procurable for the full period of ten years, in which case the average of the actual number of years procured was of necessity taken. This remark will suffice to account

for any trifling differences of the kind alluded to, which may be found in the several enclosures of my letters. The abatements made in the average amount of this Purguna are Rs. 8,999-1-30, and additions Rs. 141-0-63, leaving for this year's revenue Rs. 16,010-3-50, to which is to be added the sum of Rs. 1,000 Sivaee or extra Juma. This is to be paid in the same number of Kists as the revenue of the other Purgunas, as nearly equal in amount as the above sum could be divided, and for the regular payment of which the Potdaree established by this Government has become security.

14. The second statement, marked G No. 1, relating to this district, is similar in every respect to those marked C and E. It shows that the whole Ruckbah of the seventeen Government villages amounts to 8,928-2 Koombas, of which 4,955-3, or about $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}$ of the whole, is now under cultivation, and the remainder waste or incapable of being brought under the plough. Of this only a little more than one-fifth is Government land, the remainder being returned either as Wanta or Khabudeea land. The number of houses in the seventeen villages is only 944.

15. The three next items of A No. 1 are, 1st, Rs. 11,000 the amount of this year's revenue settled upon the Gowalee Purguna; 2nd, Rs. 12,005 or that fixed upon the Jugreca district; and 3rd, Rs. 7,001 or that settled upon the Jubboogaum Purguna. The number of the villages in these three districts being small, the details of the revenue fixed upon each have been drawn out together, in two tables similar to those I have observed upon, but divided into three parts for facility of reference. The district of Gowalee is close to that of Broach on the western, and to that of Bhalode on the eastern side; it consists of only five villages, but the land belonging to them is much more fertile and productive than of any others belonging to the Rajpeepla State, which in some degree makes up for the deficiency. They all belong to the Government, and the first part of the Statement marked H No. 1 shows, that the amount of revenue collected from them during the first period amounted to Rs. 45,640, and during the last to Rs. 79,638-3-0; the latter exceeding the former by Rs. 33,898-3-0, and the average of both added together amounting to Rs. 12,527-3-50. From this sum, abatements have been made of Rs. 2,054-1-50, and an increase of Rs. 40-2-0, making the revenue of this year (inclusive of Rs. 486 Sivaee Juma) to be Rs. 10,514. This is to be paid in four equal Kists, for which a Shroff residing in Nandod has become security.

16. The condition of this Purguna is shown in the first part of the table marked I No. 1, which makes its whole Ruckbah to amount to 2,321-3-24 Koombas, of which 575, or a little more than one-third, is this year cultivated. Of the cultivated ground, about half is returned as Government land, and the remainder either as Wanta or Khabudeea land. The number of its houses are 322.

17. The Jugreea Purguna consists of seven villages, all of which belong to the Government. There are no authenticated accounts extant of the collections made from them during the period selected of Ajebsing's reign, but their amount during the last five years, as shown by the second part of the Statement H No. 1, is Rs. 82,702, or on an average Rs. 18,540-1-60 per annum. The abatement from that amount is Rs. 4,535-1-60, leaving Rs. 12,005 as the measure for the present year, to be paid in four equal Kists, and for which good security has been obtained.

18. Its condition is shown by the second part of I No. 1, which makes its entire Ruckbah to be 2,704 Koombas, of which only 663-1-1 $\frac{1}{4}$, or about one-fourth, has this year been cultivated. Of this about two-thirds are returned as Government land, and the remainder as Khabudeea. The total number of houses is returned at 457.

19. The Jubboogaum, or as it is now more commonly called, the Loona Purguna, is situated in a SW. direction from Nandod, and is close to the district of Wusravee, belonging to the Gaekwar Government. It consists of fifteen villages, all of which belong to the Government, but two of them are Chotuck, or assessed separately from the Purguna. I was also unable to obtain any account of the collections levied from it during the first period selected, but those of the last five years are exhibited in the third part of H No. 1, and amount to Rs. 45,506-2-0, or on an average to Rs. 9,101-1-20, from which a remission to the amount of Rs. 2,100-1-28 has of necessity been made in the amount fixed for the current year.

20. The condition of this district is shown by the third part of the Statement I No. 1, which differs nothing from those which preceded it, except in the measurement of the land, which in this Purguna is in Beegas and Biswas, and not in Koombas. This shows its total amount of Ruckbah to be 5,958 Beegas, of which only 658, or less than one-eighth, are this year cultivated. About two-fifths of this is returned as Government land, and the remainder as either Wanta or Khabudeea: the number of houses is 282. The whole of this Purguna was formerly granted in Inam to the relations of the Raja of Rajpeepla, but was subsequently resumed; they, however, have still the right of enjoying a small per-centage of its gross revenue, which point was not disregarded in making the assessment for the present year.

21. The seventh item of No. 1, or Rs. 12,023, is the revenue settled upon the district of Ruttonpoor, or (as it is also called) Pudall, one of the largest Purgunas belonging to this State, but which in consequence of its very distressed and reduced condition is unable to bear a higher amount than the above. I do not deem it necessary to annex a statement of the amount of 10 years' collections, similar to those of the former Purgunas, for although such are in my possession, and will prove of use in the examination of the

Gaekwar debt, yet from the cause already mentioned, they afforded but a poor basis upon which to fix the revenue of the present year. A statement somewhat different from the rest has been drawn out, marked K No. 1, a reference to which will show more clearly than words can express, its miserable situation. This district consists of no less than sixty-four villages, of which forty-nine belong to the Government, one is at present unlawfully in the possession of the Gaekwar Government, and the remaining fourteen are Doomala. The above statement refers exclusively to the first class of villages, and shows that seven of these are now waste entirely, and three others waste, but a part of their lands cultivated by cultivators from other villages. Of the remainder I was able to obtain an accurate account of the condition of only twenty-three, the rest being in such a wretched state, as to defy the greatest industry and diligence to procure details, upon the principles laid down. The results of the amounts obtained of the twenty-three villages, will speak for the condition of the whole district, returning their whole Ruckbah at 15,711 Beegas, of which only 1,665, or about one-ninth, are now under cultivation, and of which more than one-third is either Wanta or Khabudeea land: the number of houses of the thirty-eight inhabited villages is only 890. For the manner in which the present year's revenue has been distributed upon the different villages, the name of the person who has become security for its payment, and explanatory remarks, I beg leave to refer you to the statement itself, and shall only remark the ample proof it furnishes of the great mismanagement and oppression which must have taken place prior to its falling into such a condition.

22. The three remaining items contained in A No. 1 are, 1st, the revenue expected to be derived from the Gora Purguna, or Rupees 1,682; 2nd, that from the Gurrewer Purguna, or Rupees 1,799; and 3rd, that from the Khuntal Purguna, or Rupees 1,681. These three districts are entirely inhabited by Bheels, who are, however, generally speaking, peaceably disposed, and cultivators of the soil. I have not, however, entered into the same minute inquiry as to their condition, as has been done in respect to the other Purgunas, not only from the fear of exciting their jealousy and suspicions, but also because the ancient mode of assessing them was according to the number of bullocks in each, upon which a tax varying in amount is levied, and not upon the Koomba or Beega, which custom has still been adhered to. I have therefore merely drawn out statements exhibiting the number of Government villages in each, the names of their respective Patels or Wussawas, the number of *Chapras* or huts in each, and the amount of revenue each is to pay during the present year.

23. The Gora Purguna is the most easterly of all the Rajpeepla districts, and consists of twenty-nine villages, eighteen of which belong to the Government, and the remaining eleven are Doomala. The statement marked L No. 1

exhibits the information regarding it alluded to in the last paragraph. The Gureswer Purguna is situated upon the northern banks of the Nerbudda, adjoining to the district of Tullukwara, formerly belonging to this State, but now in the possession of the Gackwar Government. It is in a very distressed situation, many of its villages being now in the entire possession of, and the whole district greatly harassed and annoyed by, the Mehwasces, who reside in Tullukwara: it consists of forty-four villages, of which twenty-seven belong to the Government, and the remaining seventeen are either Doomala, or in the possession of the Mehwasces. The statement marked M No. 1 exhibits the names of the former, of which eleven are now waste, and the number of houses in those which are inhabited, altogether amounting to only 297. The Khunthal, or (as it is also sometimes called) the Amlatha Purguna, is situated to the southward and westward of Nandod, close to the mountainous districts of Rajpepla. Its inhabitants are peaceably disposed, but much addicted to drunkenness, a circumstance arising from their district abounding in Mahudab or Mowra trees, which enables them to procure with great facility the intoxicating spirit distilled from the berry of that tree, the deleterious effects of which are visibly depicted upon their countenances. It consists of forty-two villages, eighteen of which are Doomala, and the remaining twenty-four belong to the Government, of which, however, eight are now waste. The statement marked N No. 1 shows the names of these, and the number of huts in each, amounting in all to 194. No security has been obtained for the amount of revenues settled upon these three Purgunas, which will therefore be collected by Mehtas; nor has any Fael Zamin security as yet been taken from them, which will, however, be obtained as soon as possible.

24. I have now come to the conclusion of my remarks upon the detail of the 1st item of the enclosure alluded to in the 3rd paragraph of my letter. It will be observed that the revenues settled upon the ten Purgunas this year, is, comparatively speaking, low in amount; but I am positively certain, that notwithstanding the large abatements made generally in the average amount of the ten years' collections, (and which combined have reduced the revenue of this year considerably more than Rs. 100,000 below that of the past year) the amount will be realized with great difficulty; so much has the population of this country been diminished by the emigrations of last year, and so miserably poor are those composing that part of it which had the patience to endure the exactions then made, which I regret to say occasioned the death of more than one man by the measures which were had recourse to to extort them. I trust, therefore, the temporary sacrifice this year made by the Government, will be considered not only as a measure of necessity, but also of policy, as it may confidently be expected that it will eventually be repaid by the increase it will hereafter cause in the resources of the State, by improving

the condition of its subjects. It may, perhaps, be considered, that my inquiries have been too extended and minute, and I must confess had I been in the first instance aware of the time, and I may add labour, which has on this account been employed in making them, I should have adopted a more general, though perhaps not so satisfactory a plan, as the guide of my proceedings; now, however, that the objects in view have been partly accomplished, I trust the mode which has been pursued will give the greater satisfaction, not only as affording the fullest evidence that could have been obtained of the actual condition of the country at the present moment, but at the same time furnishing the surest grounds for forming an opinion of the future improvement which may be anticipated gradually to ensue.

25. The second item of enclosure No. 1, or Rs. 4,051, is the amount of revenue expected to be derived this year from the whole of the Hill Purgunas of Rajpeepla collectively. I have not as yet been able to obtain any very satisfactory particulars of their condition in detail; the above small amount, however, to be collected, and that with difficulty, from so large a tract of country, proves their situation to be in the extreme of poverty and desolation. I shall endeavour hereafter to obtain more precise information upon this point, and shall merely now remark, that these Purgunas are sixteen in number, and formerly comprised upwards of 450 villages, the names of at least three-fourths of which now alone remain. Enclosure No. 2 exhibits the names of these Purgunas, of which six are now entirely waste; the names of the principal Bheel Wussawas residing in each of those which are partly inhabited; the revenue assessed upon each; and the direction and distance at which they are situated from Nandod; which, however, cannot be supposed to aim at more than general accuracy.

26. The succeeding item of Enclosure No. 1, amounting to Rs. 4,510 is the revenue this year fixed upon nine Chotuck villages belonging to this State. The word signifies "separate," "distinct," and is a term applied to such villages as, from any cause, may have been at any time set apart from the other villages of the several Purgunas, either to defray the private expenses of the Raja, or those of his relations and dependants, but which, reverting to the State by the demise of those for whose use they were originally appropriated, still continue separate. Enclosure No. 3 exhibits the names of these villages, and the Purgunas in which they are situated; the names of their Patels or Wussawas; the amount of revenue settled upon each, and the names of the persons who have become security for its payment; as well as the names of the Bhatts who have become security for the good conduct of five of the villages—security for the remaining four not having as yet been obtained.

27. The fourth item of the same enclosure, amounting to Rs. 2,676, is the revenue expected to be derived from the *Khanage Teragat* land possessed by this State in the districts of Nandod, Jugreea, and Gowalce. This, as its

name denotes, is land set apart for private purposes, and is mostly *Baghat*, or land adapted for gardens, given away by Indian rulers to their dependants, or more frequently appropriated by them for their own use. The above sum is this year to be raised from land of this class, which has again become Government property by the death of those to whom it was originally granted. This source of revenue has continued to form a separate collection from that of the general *Juma* since Sumvut 1821, or A. D. 1764, at the time when Rajpcepla was partly partitioned by Treaty between Damajee Rao Gaekwar and Ryesingjee, then Raja, by the third Article of which the Raja stipulated that none of his Khangī rights should be interfered with. At that time it amounted to about 7,000 Rupees annually, and in that of his successor, Ajebsing, to 3,500 rupees; from which it may be anticipated that this will gradually increase with the other resources of Rajpcepla in time to come.

28. The fifth item, or Rs. 1,301, is the revenue expected to be derived from another sort of land belonging to this Government, known by the name of *Seeran*. Its origin is reported to be as follows:—During the reign of Jeet Sing, Raja of Rajpcepla, and grandfather of Ryesingjee, the different members of the Raja's family had amassed together considerable wealth in ready money. This attracted the avaricious mind of the Raja, who turned his attention towards finding out some plan by which he might eventually become possessed of their treasure, and at the same time without sustaining any loss of character. He concealed his object, and finally succeeded in obtaining it by persuading many of his relations and dependants to purchase with their wealth Government land, pointing out to them the greater security of landed to personal property. By this advice the crafty Raja obtained a considerable sum of ready money, and the land now known by the appellation of *Seeran* is the same which was at the time purchased by his advice, but which has since reverted to the State by the death of the original purchasers, by whose names it is in many instances now distinguished. It received the above name from having been bought by the Raja's relations to furnish them with a future maintenance; *Seeran* being the plural of *Seer*, one of the meanings of which is, a maintenance or provision. In other parts of Guzerat, land of this kind is known by the name of *Sheeran*, *Sheerzhan*, and *Churzhan*; and in Kattywar by that of *Cheerdan*.

29. The sixth and seventh items of this enclosure, the one amounting to Rs. 4,749-2-0, and the other to Rs. 4,511, are the sums expected to be received from the Doomala villages under this Government, the first as revenue, and the second as a Nuzzur, levied on account of the accession of a new Raja to the sovereignty of the State. They are, however, only estimated for the present, and may either exceed or fall short in their amount, as the condition of these villages has not yet been fully ascertained, nor the tenures by which they are

held examined into, upon which two points the increase or decrease which will ensue depends. I shall therefore delay forwarding such particulars regarding them as I am now in possession of, until proper inquiry has rendered them more authentic; merely now observing, that in the ten lower Purgunas of Rajpeepla alone, they amount to eighty in number.

30. The succeeding item is the revenue this year fixed upon the village of Kunalee, situated on the northern bank of the Nerbudda, in the vicinity of Chanood. The whole of this village was formerly enjoyed by this Government, but half was wrested from it by the Gaekwar Government, and bestowed by it in Inam to different Bramins, who now enjoy it. It is now in a very distressed state (which will account for its revenue being so small), being much distressed by the Melwasees residing in its vicinity, with whom it has contracted heavy debts.

31. The ninth item, or Rs. 3,500, is the amount for which the cornelian mines of Rajpeepla have this year been farmed. I have at present nothing further to add to the information contained in my memorandum relative to this source of revenue, except that the exclusive right of working these mines has been given for the present year, by this Government, to the village of Limmodra, by which it was formerly enjoyed; the two recent establishments I there stated to have been farmed, having proved by experience to be a loss rather than a gain to the State.

32. The tenth item, amounting to Rs. 5,705, is the revenue expected to be this year realized from the customs levied upon goods and timber exported and imported from and into Rajpeepla. I have in my possession the materials for showing the details of these collections and the different rates of the imposts levied, which vary at almost every *Naka*. These I shall hereafter forward, whenever I can find the requisite time to arrange them. For the present, Enclosure No. 4 will suffice; exhibiting the names of the different places at which customs are levied, the names of the persons who have undertaken the farm of some of them, and the amount for which in some cases security has been obtained, and in others expected to be realized from each. By farming this source of revenue wherever it was practicable, the most has been made of it, as the expenses of collection are saved, and the rates to be levied from each *Naka* being fixed, no exaction or extra levy can easily be made upon the merchants. With reference to the suggestion contained in the 13th paragraph of my letter to your address dated the 30th ultimo, the four first items contained in this enclosure may be adduced as proof to the Gaekwar Government, that it does not profit by retaining the half share of the customs of the four principal Purgunas, the Raja's share having this year only produced the sum of Rs. 2,658, and the Gaekwar Government allowing the Raja, for its share, the sum of Rupees 3,000, or Rupees 342 beyond that sum.

33. The succeeding item is the sum for which the exclusive privilege of cutting firewood in the forest of Ruttunpoor has been farmed this year. The farmer reimburses himself by levying a small impost upon every cart-load that is taken away by persons resorting there from Broach, Uklasur, Wusravee, and the neighbouring districts.

34. The twelfth item, amounting to Rs. 12,374-2-75, are the Tora Geeras rights due to this State from the territories of the British Government as they were levied last year. I have the honour to annex copy of a letter and its enclosure I have received from the Collector of Broach, dated the 11th instant, in reply to my letter to him of the 24th ultimo, upon the subject of these rights as far as relates to the districts under his jurisdiction. From this it will be observed, that their total amount from the three Purganas of Hansot, Uklasur, and Broach, after deducting the customary Inams given to certain Desaees and Patels, is Rs. 11,155-2-75. I am directed, in the 34th paragraph of your letter of instructions for my guidance, to investigate these rights. The above sum, however, requires no further inquiry, as it exactly corresponds in its total amount and its details with a statement I had previous to its receipt received from this Government. A claim for *Furfurmaish* from the above districts was however made, consisting of such articles as are included in the term, such as grass and firewood, thread, hides, *Chapains* oil, goats, &c. &c.; but I have intimated that these will not in future be admitted, interfering as they do with the general spirit of the arrangement now to be made of the right being paid in ready money from the public treasury without the proprietor exercising any direct interference with the villages over which it exists. This intimation, added to the doubtful nature of the claim itself, has caused it to be withdrawn, and the above arrangement to be acceded to without any further demur. This State claims a similar right upon the Oolpar Purgana, to the amount of Rs. 1,567; but I have only given it credit for Rs. 1,219 for the present year, as only that amount was paid last year, and in the mean time have written a letter on the subject to the Collector at Surat. I take this opportunity of reporting that further claims have been brought forward, of a similar nature, upon the territories of the late Peishwa in Kandeish, which I shall have the honour further to report upon, after the requisite investigation has been entered into.

35. The thirteenth item is the amount of Tora Geeras dues claimed from the territories of His Highness the Gaekwar, and amount to Rs. 1,616. These require no remark, as I have already reported upon them in the 20th para. of my letter of the 30th ultimo. I have deemed it right to include them in the revenue of the present year, until it is decided whether the recommendation I have made regarding them is to be followed, or any other mode which may be deemed more preferable.

36. The two following items are, 1st, Rs. 18,579, the amount of a Nuzzerana to be this year levied on account of the Raja's accession; and 2nd, Rs. 1,410, presented on the day that event took place. Being directed in the 2nd para- of Mr. Warden's letter, dated the 30th of November last, to exercise my own judgment upon the subject of levying this Nuzzerana, I beg leave to observe, that I have deemed it necessary to recommend that it should not be generally levied all over the country the present year, owing to its distressed condition. The amount now to be raised has been divided impartially and according to the ability of each person contributing towards it amongst the wealthier classes of the Raja's subjects, such as the head Zumindars and Patels, the Karbarees and Karkoons of Government, Merchants, Shroffs, &c. &c., who will not be distressed in consequence of the levy; but it is proposed that the levying any Nuzzerana from the Ryuts should at least be delayed for the present year. This arrangement will not only prove beneficial to those for whose benefit it is adopted, but eventually so to the Government, as the former will be better able to pay a much larger amount hereafter than now, not only from the improvement which, it is to be hoped, will take place in their condition, but also from the return of the greater part of those who abandoned their homes during the late oppressive rule of the Gaekwar Government.

37. The sixteenth item, or Rs. 20,000, is the amount which it is estimated will be recovered by the Government from the resumptions of Khabudeea land, or land at present enjoyed by persons having no right to it, but who have become possessed of it incident to the late unsettled times. Investigations are now in progress, carried on upon principles of justice, and I have very little doubt but that the result will prove at least the Government to be entitled to the above amount, as upon reference to the four tables marked C, E, G, and I No. 1 it will be observed that no less than upwards of 10,416 Koombas are returned as Khabudeea land by the village accounts of the six Purgunas to which these documents refer, independent of nearly 2,000 Koombas of Wanta or Geerasia land.

38. The seventeenth item, or Rs. 3,784-0-48, is the amount which it is calculated will be derived from the Wutta, or exchange, upon such part of the revenue of Rajpeepla as is paid in the Broach currency, the rupees current at Nandod being the Babashye. The exchange between these two currencies varies at Nandod from 4 to 8 per cent., upon which data the above sum has been estimated.

39. The four following items are, 1st, Rs. 200 on account of Roz Moh-sullee; 2nd, Rs. 2,000 on account of Dund Furozee, or fines and amerciaments; 3rd, Rs. 2,300 on account of interest upon Government money, and two per cent. Potdaree, to be cut from the *chits* or notes drawn upon the Potdar; and 4th, Rs. 198 on account of Kullell Bhutee, or licenses granted to the

venders of spirituous liquor. These petty sources of emoluments derived by Native Governments are too well known to require any remark; they have in the present instance been estimated on a low scale, which will render it improbable that the actual amount, which will this year be realized on their account, will fall short of that which has been calculated.

40. The twenty-second item, or Rs. 9,107, are the deductions allowed to this State by the Gaekwar Government, alluded to in the 11th and seven following paragraphs of my letter dated the 30th ultimo, to which, for its particulars, I beg leave to refer you. It cannot, however, be considered a regular resource, but is included with those of the present year until the amount of the tribute has been fixed which in future is to be paid to the Gaekwar Government. The concluding item of Rupees 50,000 has also been included in the resources of the present year, being the amount to be advanced by the Potdar beyond the regular receipts of the State, of which stipulation, it will, I fear, be absolutely necessary to take advantage to the fullest extent.

41. I have now come to the conclusion of my observations upon the important subject of my letter, and having made them so freely and fully upon the different sources of revenue in succession, precludes the necessity for many observations of a general nature. The total amount exhibited is more than I had anticipated could have been raised, but under ordinary circumstances I do not apprehend any serious defalcations will appear the end of the year. The amount is heavy for the country to bear in its present situation, but great care has been bestowed in its distribution, and as more than Rs. 43,000 of the regular resources (leaving out of the question the amount to be advanced by the Potdar) will be levied from those who, generally speaking, do not pay any direct revenue, the remainder will fall lightly upon the country generally, in comparison with what they have been made to bear of late years. The tables and several documents accompanying my letter, afford ample proof of the capability which exists of the resources being gradually improved to a very considerable extent under proper care and management. This remark does not apply to any particular resource, but to all alike, all having in a greater or less degree been diminished by the oppression and exactions of the last five years.

42. In conclusion I have to inform you, that I am now preparing a draft of the future expenses of the Rajpéepla State, which I shall hand up for your consideration as soon as ready, after which it will be practicable to make assignments upon the revenue of this year, in the manner which may be considered most advisable, in part liquidation of the public debts.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Camp Nandod, 19th January 1822.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

From A. BURNETT, Esq., Collector of Broach,

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident, Nandod.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 24th ultimo, and to enclose a Statement of Tora Geeras collected from the districts under this Collectorate on account of the Rajpeepla State.

I have further to acquaint you that the collections on account of Tora Geeras were made by my predecessors since the year 1814-15, and the exact amount paid to the inhabitants of Singpoor village is Rupees (21,267-3-62) twenty-one thousand two hundred and sixty-seven, three quarters, and sixty-two reas.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. BURNETT, Collector.

Broach Collector's Office, 11th January 1822.

A Statement of the fixed Annual Amount collected from the Districts under the Collectorship of Broach on account of Tora Geeras to the Rajpeepla State; showing the yearly amount deducted for the payment of the usual Inams to the Desages, &c.; as also the exact sum deducted for the payment of the losses sustained by the Inhabitants of Singpoor Village in the attack made upon their Village in the year 1813.

BROACH PURGUNA.

Neckora	Baroda Rs.	300	0	0
Sookulturath		344	0	0
Shukerpoor		679	0	0
Borbhata		95	0	0
		<hr/>	1,418	0 0

UKLESUR PURGUNA.

Sunyalla		31	0	0
Urvadar		31	0	0
Pardee Mookha		16	0	0
Bhaddee		12	0	0
Singpoor		101	0	0
Suffeepoora		11	0	0
Alonge		31	0	0
Peepror		31	0	0
		<hr/>	264	0 0

Carried over . . B. Rs. 1,682 0 0

Brought over.. Baroda Rs. 1,682 0 0

HANSOT PURGUNA.

		Geras Demand.		Deduct Patels' Inam.			Net Demand.	
Outiyadra..	..	4,841	0 0	88	0 0		396	1 0
Obha ..	..	1,198	3 50	81	3 0		1,117	0 50
Soonow Khoord ..	..	559	0 0	35	1 0		523	3 0
Mothiya ..	..	678	0 0	20	3 0		657	1 0.
Undadra ..	..	412	3 75	14	3 0		398	0 75
Barodra ..	..	892	0 0	47	3 0		844	1 0
ElLOW ..	..	781	0 50	64	3 0		716	1 50
Pundory ..	..	363	0 75	65	3 0		297	1 75
Malunpoor ..	..	768	0 50	54	1 50		713	3 0
Asurma ..	..	724	3 0	59	3 0		665	0 0
Soonow Kulan ..	..	884	2 0	109	0 0		775	2 0
Doongra ..	..	379	2 0	12	2 0		367	0 0
Balota ..	..	798	3 0	66	2 0		732	1 0
Bolao ..	..	778	0 25	61	2 0		716	2 25
Walnur ..	..	821	3 0	49	2 0		772	1 0
Deegush ..	..	4	0 0	.....			4	0 0
Bhurwara..	..	35	0 0	.....			35	0 0

10,563 3 25 831 3 50 9,731 3 75

Kallekhans.

Wugwan ..	..	222	3 0	1	0 0		221	3 0.
Shehera ..	..	97	0 0	2	0 0		95	0 0

10,048 2 75

10,883 2 25 834 3 50

11,730 2 75

Deduct the amount of usual Inams to the Desaees, &c :—

Bhocandas and others ..	..	175	0 0
Sunkeral Desae ..	..	178	0 0
Kulian.. ..	..	10	0 0
Sewa Juggoo ..	..	18	0 0
Hurra Sonee ..	..	5	0 0
Hadgee Khakshaw Peer ..	..	5	0 0
Jahudunshaw Peer ..	..	2	0 0
Taboots ..	..	2	0 0
Bhowaneesunker Bhut ..	..	2	0 0
Hansot Jumadars ..	..	5	0 0
Weerbhan and Bhica Dollie Patels ..	..	25	0 0
Jusoobhan Desae ..	..	100	0 0

527 0 0

Carried over.. B. Rs. 527 0 0 11,730 2 75

Brought over.. Baroda Rs. 527 0 0 11,730 2 75

PENSION.

Suyud Lall Suyud Noor for one year, at Rs. 4

per month	48 0 0	
	<hr/>	575 0 0
		<hr/>

Balance regularly paid every year to the Selot on produc-

ing the letter from the Resident at Baroda	Rs. 11,155 2 75
	<hr/> <hr/>

(Signed) A. BURNETT, Collector.

Broach, Collector's Office, 11th January 1822.

N. B. The amount paid to the inhabitants of Singpoor

village for the loss they sustained in the attack made

upon their village by the troops of Mansingjee ..	Rs. 21,267 3 62
	<hr/> <hr/>

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Statement exhibiting a general Abstract of the Resources of the Rajppeepla State, as nearly as can be at present calculated, for Sunrut 1878, or A. D. 1821-22.

No.	Names of the different Resources.	Amount of each.		Remarks.
		Rs.	q. r.	
1	Revenue of the ten lower Purgunas of Rajppeepla	1,26,056	1 50	For the details of this item, vide Enclosure marked A No. 1, and, for its explanation, the 5th and 25th paras. of my letter.
2	Ditto expected from the Hill Purgunas of ditto	4,051	0 0	For the details of this, vide Enclosure No. 2 and the 25th para. of my letter.
3	Ditto ditto from the Chotuck villages of ditto	4,510	0 0	For the details of this item, vide Enclosure No. 3 and the 26th para. of my letter.
4	Ditto ditto from the Kanajee land of ditto	2,676	0 0	For the explanation of this item, vide the 27th para. of my letter.
5	Ditto ditto from the Seiran ditto	1,301	0 0	For ditto ditto, vide the 28th ditto of ditto.
6	Ditto ditto from the Doomala villages of ditto	4,749	2 0	} For ditto of these items, vide the 29th do. of do.
7	Amount of Nuzzer expected from ditto of ditto	4,511	0 0	
8	Revenue expected from the village of Kurnallee	175	0 0	For ditto ditto, vide the 30th para. of do.
9	Ditto ditto from the cornelian mines	3,500	0 0	For ditto ditto, vide the 31st do. of do.
10	Customs of the different Nakas, and upon timber	5,705	0 0	For the details of this item, vide Enclosure No. 4 and the 32nd para. of my letter.
11	Farm of the right of cutting firewood in the jungles of Ruttonpoor.	475	0 0	Vide 33rd para. of my letter.
12	Tora Geeras rights upon the territories of the British Government.	12,374	2 75	Vide Enclosure No. 5 and 34th para. of my letter.
13	Ditto ditto upon those of the Gaekwar Government	1,616	0 0	Vide the 35th para. of my letter.
14	Amount of Nuzzer to be paid by the Head Zamindars and Desaees of Rajppeepla	18,579	0 0	} Vide the 36th para. of ditto.
15	Ditto ditto presented to the Raja on the day of his accession.	1,410	0 0	
16	Amount expected to be derived from the resumptions of Kabudea land at present unlawfully enjoyed	20,000	0 0	Vide the 37th ditto of ditto.
17	Amount expected to be received on account of Wuttao or exchange ..	3,784	0 0	Vide the 38th ditto of ditto.

No.	Names of the different Resources.	Amount of ea h.			Remarks.
		Rs.	q.	r.	
18	Amount expected to be received on account of Roz Mohsullee	200	0	0	} Vide the 39th para. of my letter.
19	Ditto ditto ditto on account of Dund Furre, or fines.	2,000	0	0	
20	Interest upon Government money and Potdaree to be received from the Government Potdar	2,300	0	0	
21	Kulall Bhabee, or licenses to liquor shops	198	0	0	
22	Amount of deductions to be made by the Gaekwar Government on account of Doomala villages, &c. &c.	9,107	0	0	} Vide the 40th ditto of ditto.
	Total	2,29,278	2	25	
23	Amount to be advanced by the Potdar beyond the receipts of the Government	50,000	0	0	} Vide the 8th para. of the Potdaree agreement, handed up in my letter to Government, dated the 6th of December last.
	Grand Total	2,79,278	2	25	

Camp Nanded, 17th January 1822.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Assistant Resident.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Statement exhibiting the Names of the sixteen Hill Purgunas belonging to the Rajpeepla Government, and specifying those which are at present partly Inhabited from those which are now entirely Waste; the Names of the principal Wussawa or Bheel Chiefs residing in the former; and the Revenue expected to be derived from each in the present year; with the probable Directions and Distance at which they are situated from Nandod, the Capital of Rajpeepla.

Names of the Purgunas.	Names of the principal Wussawa of each.	Revenue for the present year.	Remarks.
		Rs. q. r.	
1 Doomkul	Vulvee Dajeco	150 0 0	This is the most easterly of these districts, and about 25 koss from Nandod.
2 Morjenu	Wussawa Vuto	225 0 0	This is situated near the Fort of Rajpeepla, about 8 koss from Nandod.
3 Chopree	" Gando	375 0 0	This adjoins the Morjenu district.
4 Nowagaum	" Jamuloo	100 0 0	This district is situated about ten koss to the southward of Nandod.
5 Gajun Gota	" Janceo	325 0 0	This is adjoining to the Nowagaum Purguna.
6 Thowah	" Wagree	225 0 0	To the southward and westward of Nandod, about 20 koss.
7 Natrung	" Duwaleco	1,000 0 0	To the southward and westward of Nandod, about 23 koss.
8 Warcoonta	" Raluo	401 0 0	To the south of Nandod, about 21 koss.
9 Roodah	" Byesingjee	1,200 0 0	To the southward and westward of Nandod, about 24 koss.
10 Phoolsuree	" Ghuveba	50 0 0	Near the Fort of Rajpeepla, about 7 koss from Nandod.
	Total...	4,051 0 0	

Names of the Hill Purgunas now waste.
1 Koombdha.
2 Sakhharra.
3 Curruck Ghoonwala.
4 Cooleywara or Gungather.
5 Ratee.
6 Wudgaum.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Assistant Resident.

Camp Nandod, 15th January 1822.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

Statement exhibiting the Names of the nine Chotuck Villages belonging to the Rajppeepla State, the Names of their Patels, the Amount of Revenue fixed upon each for the present year, and the Names of the persons who have become Security for its Payment, and for the Good Conduct of the Villages.

Names of the Villages and Purgas.	Names of the Patels.	Revenue for the present year.	Names of the persons who have become Security for the Revenue.	Names of the Fael Zamin, or Security for Good Conduct.	Remarks.
<i>Nandod.</i>		Rs. q. r.			
1 Kurrola ..	Hurribye ..	1,301 0 0	Bugwan Narrondas ..	Baroot Rye Dajee Bawa, of Putna.	{ For the collection of the last five years made from these three villages, vide Statement B No. 1, and for their condition as to population and cultivation, vide the Statement C No. 1.
2 Saharaio ..	Bugoo Soondur ..	1,251 0 0	Ditto ..	Baroot Rye Gumberseeng, do.	
3 Juthuggur ..	Gurdur... ..	101 0 0	Ditto ..	Boroot Rye Bownanee Sing, do.	
<i>Warrutee.</i>					
4 Wagpoora ..	Wussawa Jundao..	25 0 0	None ..	Not taken.....	{ For the condition of these two villages, vide the Statement E No. 1.
5 Rola	Wussawa Ranas ..	15 0 0	Ditto ..	Ditto	
<i>Ruttonpoor.</i>					
6 Dowlutpoor ...	.....	30 0 0	Ditto ..	Ditto	{ This village is waste, a part of its lands being cultivated by Oopurwawas or cultivators from another village.
<i>Loona.</i>					
7 Dasud	Bodana... ..	1,001 0 0	Shawuck Bugwandas ..	Baroot Dyajee Bhicca ...	{ For the last five years' collections from these two villages, vide the 3rd part of the Table H No. 1, and for their condition as to population and cultivation, vide the 3rd part of the Table marked I No. 1.
8 Shelooore ..	Aboo Herjee ..	60 0 0	Ditto ..	Baroot Kasu Muconjee	
<i>Gora.</i>					
9 Kullee	Wussawa Kalleo ..	185 0 0	None ..	Not taken.	
	Total...	4,510 0 0			

Camp Nandod, 14th January 1822.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Assistant Resident.

ENCLOSURE No. 4.

Statement exhibiting the Names of the different Places at which Customs are levied in the Rajpeeppla District, the Names of such persons as have Farmed them for the present year, the Amount for which each has been Farmed, with Explanatory Remarks.

Sl. No.	Names of the Places at which the Customs are levied.	Names of the Farmers.	Amount of each.		Remarks.
			Rs.	q. r.	
1	Nandod	Govindram Khandas, of Nandod ..	701	0 0	Security has been obtained for these sums, which are only for half the share of the Customs collected, the other half being collected by the Gaekwar Government.
2	Wurrutee	Kushundas Peetamberdas, of Sinnor.	1,001	0 0	
3	Bhalode	Pundeea Koornasunker, of Nandod..	615	0 0	
4	Gowalee .....	.....	341	0 0
5	Ruttonpoor	Gocul Narraindas, of Nandod.....	1,351	0 0	Security has also been obtained for these sums.
6	Loona	Ditto	400	0 0	
7	Gora	50	0 0	These items are merely estimated.
8	Gurreswar .....	.....	25	0 0
9	Khuntal	Janeea Hurry Narrain, of Nandod..	221	0 0	Security has been obtained for these sums.
10	Rajpeeppla	Lall Shalote, of Nandod	75	0 0	
11	Customs to be levied from the Movra berry	100	0 0	These three last items are estimated.
12	Ditto upon Bavlas .....	.....	25	0 0
13	Ditto upon timber .....	.....	800	0 0
Total.....			5,705	0 0	

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Assistant Resident.

Camp Nandod, 14th January 1822.

A No. 1.

Statement exhibiting the Amount of Revenue Assessed upon each of the ten Lower Purgunas of Rajppeepla for the present year, in explanation of the 1st item of Enclosure No. 1.

No.	Names of the Purgunas.	Total Revenue for 1878.			Remarks.
		Rs.	q.	r.	
1	Nandod	45,096	2	0	For the particulars of this item, vide Statement marked B No. 1.
2	Wurrutee	16,758	0	0	For this, vide D No. 1.
3	Bhalode	17,010	3	50	Ditto, vide F No. 1.
4	Gowalee	11,000	0	0	Vide H No. 1, 1st part.
5	Jugreea	12,005	0	0	Ditto ditto, 2nd do.
6	Jubboogaum	7,061	0	0	Ditto ditto, 3rd do.
7	Ruttonpoor	12,023	0	0	Vide K No. 1.
8	Gora	1,682	0	0	Vide L No. 1.
9	Gurreswer	1,799	0	0	Vide M No. 1.
10	Khuntal	1,681	0	0	Vide N No. 1.
Total		1,26,056	1	50	

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Assistant Resident.

Camp Nanded, 14th January 1822.

L No. 1.

Statement exhibiting the Names of the seventeen Villages in the Gora Purguna belonging to the Rajppeepla Government; the Names of their respective Patels; the Revenue fixed for the present year; and concluding with Remarks.

No.	Names of the Villages.	Names of the Patels.	Number of Chupras in each.	Revenue for the year 1878. Rs. q. r.	Name of the person sent to realize the Revenue.	Remarks.
1	Gora.....	Patel Ambydas ..	38	275 0 0	Meha Jummall, of Nanded.	This Purguna is situated to the east of Nanded, and is entirely inhabited by Bheels, who pay their revenue in proportion to the number of bullocks each village may possess.
2	Nana Soonda	" Guloo.....	3	20 0 0		
3	Joonrud	" Pusuo.....	15	10 0 0		
4	Banudroon	" Koulo.. ..	25	110 0 0		
5	Sumaneoor	" Huneoo	28	201 0 0		
6	Shaekeon.....	" Ookurns	6	20 0 0		
7	Indranoo	" Nagur	40	175 0 0		
8	Nana Pupulroon	" Rajoo	12	75 0 0		
9	Vusunpoora.....	" Dadjee	18	175 0 0		
10	Jurudnoo.....	" Kasoo.....	30	91 0 0		
11	Mokree	" Kootineu ..	33	170 0 0		
12	Soolpaun	" Kuchnoo ..	19	91 0 0		
13	Ryepooroo	" Motha	10	57 0 0		
14	Rawul Nana.....	" Jugueero ..	7	13 0 0		
15	Rawul Nestee	" Bhano	8	13 0 0		
16	Borevo.....	" Nanko	22	101 0 0		
17	Vansvulloo	" Dulloo	7	91 0 0		
Total...			321	1,688 0 0		

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Assistant Resident.

Camp Nanded, 10th January 1822.

M No. 1.

Statement exhibiting the Names of the twenty-seven Villages in the Gurreeswar Purguna belonging to the Rajpeela Government, specifying those which are Waste and those which are Inhabited; the Names of their respective Patels; the Number of Houses in each; the Revenue for the present year; and concluding with Remarks.

Sl. No.	Names of the Villages.	Names of the Wussawas.	Number of Chapras in each.	Revenue for the year 1878.		Name of the person sent to realize the Revenue.	Remarks.
				Rs.	q. r.		
1	Gurreeswar	Patel Jadoo	20	101	0 0	Amrutlall, of Nanded.	This Purguna is inhabited entirely by Bheels of the Dhanka caste, who pay their revenue in proportion to the number of bullocks they possess. They have dropped the distinguishing appellation of the head of a village inhabited by Bheels, "Wussawa," and adopted that of a Koonbee village, "Patel."
2	Sangrole	" Koobera	30	251	0 0		
3	Neteswar	" Hurreeo	25	101	0 0		
4	Dumadron	" Ramjee	22	103	0 0		
5	Kurureoor	" Nano	55	201	0 0		
6	Kotee	" Dawa	27	201	0 0		
7	Amudla	" Jalo	21	175	0 0		
8	Kurruckdar	" Ramjee	36	165	0 0		
9	Gunnad	" Buglo	10	105	0 0		
10	Waree	" Ravulo	3	25	0 0		
11	Bhoomulhoo	" Ramo	5	95	0 0		
12	Weyulhoo	" Shamlo	3	30	0 0		
13	Balwanee	" Jujo	7	46	0 0		
14	Jemnon	" Nanoo	7	75	0 0		
15	Lienree	" Kooreeo	34	70	0 0		
16	Kahnee	" Someo	12	15	0 0		
Total.			317	1,759	0 0		

Sl. No.	Names of Villages now waste.
1	Oodroon.
2	Oorpoor.
3	Goolwanee.
4	Punsolee.
5	Sushoo.
6	Soangaum.
7	Nasrupooroo.
8	Wugralie.
9	Saduron.
10	Chundurpooro.
11	Chuchuclevoo.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Assistant Resident.

Camp Nanded, 10th January 1822.

N No. 1.

Statement exhibiting the Names of the twenty-four Villages in the Khuntal Pargana belonging to the Rajppeepla Government, specifying those which are Waste and those which are Inhabited; the Names of their respective Wussawas; the Number of Houses in each; the Revenue for the present year; and concluding with Remarks.

Names of the Villages.	Names of the Wussawas.	Number of Chapras in each.	Revenue for the year 1878.	Name of the person sent to realize the Revenue.	Remarks.
			Rs. q. r.		
1 Amlatha	Wussawa Nuthoo	48	349 0 0	Jeewanram Kooshall.	<p>This is a village which formerly gave name to this Purguna.</p> <p>The whole Purguna is inhabited by Bheels, who, however, pay revenue not in proportion to the quantity of land they cultivate, but according to the number of bullocks they may possess, upon each pair of which a tax varying in amount is laid.</p>
2 Purtaubnuggur.....	Chundeeo ..	32	306 0 0		
3 Gamkoor	Natho	32	115 0 0		
4 Kujulwusoon	Wastuo	16	225 0 0		
5 Tropoo	Rye Sing	8	175 0 0		
6 Vesunpooroo	Coareea	2	81 0 0		
7 Ganthoo	Kajro	10	65 0 0		
8 Ookurwadoon	Govenduo ..	8	175 0 0		
9 Sunadra	Vasta	3	30 0 0		
10 Ranghur	Chuteeo	10	8 0 0		
11 Jaitpoor	Mosun	8	7 0 0		
12 Kamdroo	Calpo	4	41 0 0		
13 Meahgaum	Doongureea ..	2	2 0 0		
14 Chudvadoon.....	Rye Sing	3	10 0 0		
15 Kasurvoon	Doongureea ..	3	51 0 0		
16 Vular	Kudroo	5	45 0 0		
	Total...	194	1,685 0 0		

Names of Villages now waste.
1. Moddee Padoon.
2. Bhamshee.
3. Seer.
4. Chudrode.
5. Moto Hurroo.
6. Dudvadoor.
7. Tukla.
8. Nanoo Hurroo.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Assistant Resident.

Camp Nandod, 11th January 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To THE RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 9th March 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 5th of February, forwarding Mr. Willoughby's report on the resources of the Rajpeepla principality.

2. The Honorable the Governor in Council has perused with considerable satisfaction so decisive a proof of your Assistant's diligence and assiduity, and of the precautions under which the Native Agents were instructed to collect information of the state of cultivation and distribution of the lands and general resources of the country, with the view of enabling him to fix the assessment on a basis proportionate to the wants of the State, and without distressing or overburthening the cultivators.

3. Without in any degree interfering in the internal constitution of the villages, or with the principles on which their assessment has been regulated and realized under the Native Government, Mr. Willoughby, before fixing the payment from each village, has ascertained its collections for a period of ten years, and assumed the average as the ground of his settlement; judiciously making remissions in instances where villages were entirely or nearly waste, or deeply involved in debt, and, on the other hand, additions in those which were comparatively in a flourishing and prosperous condition; the period selected for obtaining the average being also fair and equitable to both parties, viz. the first five years, or Sumvut 1851 (A. D. 1796) to Sumvut 1855 (A. D. 1800), being favorable to the Ryutry from the assessment having been moderate, and in the second period, from the contrary cause, favourable to the Government.

4. The elucidations which your Assistant has entered into of the effects of that principle, appear to afford satisfactory evidence of its justness, and the very prudent and at the same time comprehensive measures which Mr. Willoughby has pursued to obtain data for the formation of the assessment, at all times a delicate and intricate proceeding, are entitled to the particular approbation of the Governor in Council.

5. The collections for the first period appear to have

been	Rs.	1,58,438	1	0
And for the second		2,44,887	3	0
This has been fixed for Sumvut 1878 (A. D. 1821-22)				
at		2,29,278	2	73

Assuming the resources of the Rajpeepla principality for the year 1821-22 at	Rs.	2,29,278	2	73
The expenses of the State appear by the statements accompanying your despatch of the 16th of February to be.....		90,060	0	0
	Leaves.....	1,39,218	2	73
Deduct the Gaekwar tribute	Rs.	75,000		
Provision for Soorajkoor and Purtaub Sing.....		8,400		
		83,400	0	0
	Leaving....Rs.	55,818	2	73

applicable to the discharge of the debts of the Government (of the amount of which the Governor in Council is uninformed) exclusive of the sum of Rs. 50,000 to be advanced by the Potdaree beyond the receipts of the Government.

You will be pleased to report whether the settlement of the revenue for the current year was made by the Raja's Ministers, or by Mr. Willoughby, and if by the latter, whether it has been acquiesced in by the former.

6. With respect to the claims to Tora Geeras which the Government of Rajpeepla had advanced on the Oolpar Purguna, you will ascertain and report when it was last paid by the Poona Government; for though the sum be insignificant in amount, it is desirable on the ground of precedent to resist all such objectionable claims if they had been disallowed by the Native Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN,

Bombay Castle, 9th March 1822.

Chief Secretary.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident, Baroda.

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have now the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 9th of March last, remarking upon and approving of Mr. Willoughby's proceedings, detailed in that gentleman's report of the 19th of January last, reporting upon the resources of the Rajpeepla State, and the mode of fixing its revenue for the current year.

2. Having requested my Assistant to furnish me with the information called for in the 6th para. of your despatch, I beg leave to refer you to the enclosed copy of a letter he has addressed to me, under date the 30th ultimo.

3. I take this opportunity of stating, that I was prevented from replying to this and several other of your despatches relating to Rajppeepla at an earlier period, by the absence of Mr. Willoughby, and subsequently by my being engaged in framing the Gaekwar financial reports for the last year. I am now, however, discussing the various points still remaining unsettled between the Baroda Durbar and this petty State, and shall hereafter report the result for the information and decision of Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 1st August 1822.

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident, Baroda.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 28th instant, replying to my letter of the 19th January last, and enclosing a copy of a letter to your address from Mr. Warden, conveying the approbation of the Honorable the Governor in Council upon the information therein contained.

2. It is unnecessary for me to express the high gratification your letter and its enclosure have afforded me, evincing as they do that my endeavours to merit the approbation of my superiors, in the performance of this part of my duty, were successful beyond my most sanguine expectations.

3. In reference to the information called for in the 6th para. of Mr. Warden's letter, I have the honour to state that the assessment of the revenue was made by myself privately in communication with the Raja's Minister, who afterwards himself publicly fixed it with the Zamindars and Patels.

4. After I had obtained the amount of the ten years' collections and the village accounts, the nature of which and the manner in which they were obtained I have already fully detailed in my former report, I fixed, in reference to them, the amount of revenue of each village, and gave it to the Karbaree. In some cases, from good reasons assigned by him, these were either increased or decreased, and the increase or decrease was made with reference to the state of each village and the fertility of its soil. The Minister and myself having agreed finally together as to the amount each village could afford to pay, I thought it right that he should conclude the settlements fixed upon, alone, with the Patels, and take from them the security bonds fixing the periods and instalments at which they were to be paid—a line of conduct which appeared calculated to give him weight and influence with this important class of his master's subjects. When in this manner a whole district had been settled, he brought all the Patels to my tent, and I then explained to them the principles

upon which the Raja's Government had fixed the revenue which was expected from them, viz. in reference to both its own and their distressed condition, and dismissed them by assurances of no oppression being exercised upon them, and giving them encouragement to cultivate their lands in the ensuing year, as an equitable Gunvut, or rate of assessment, upon the several descriptions of land in each village would be fixed, in reference to their respective fertility, at the proper period, and consequently that the gain of each village would be proportionate to the industry and labour of the inhabitants of each. In this manner, I may safely say, they, generally speaking, returned home well satisfied and contented in mind ; and the most beneficial results may, I should hope, be anticipated in the increased cultivation, and consequent increase in the Raja's resources, which is likely to ensue in succeeding years.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Baroda Residency, 30th July 1822.

PROCEEDINGS CONNECTED WITH THE FARMING,
THROUGH THE INTERVENTION OF
MR. J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
UNDER THE BRITISH GUARANTEE,
FROM JUNE 1822 TO AUGUST 1829,
OF THE
SEVEN PRINCIPAL DISTRICTS OF THE RAJPEEPLA
STATE.

FARMING OF THE SEVEN PRINCIPAL DISTRICTS OF THE RAJPEEPLA STATE.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident in Charge, Baroda,
To J. FARISH, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 3rd January 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to report, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, that I have for some time past been engaged, in concert with the local managers of Rajpeepla, in ascertaining the probable resources of that petty State for the current year.

2. It will be in the recollection of Government that their amount for last year, as estimated in my letter to Mr. Williams, dated the 19th of January 1822, was Rs. 2,29,278-2-73.

3. The actual realizations, however, have fallen considerably below the above estimate, as they at present only amount to about Rs. 1,95,000.

4. The cause of this deficiency has already been reported to Government in Mr. Williams' letter to Mr. Warden, dated the 30th of September last, and it is with extreme reluctance I am now obliged to report, that the damage and injury Rajpeepla sustained from the late awful visitation of Providence was so great, as to reduce the estimate of its probable resources for the present year to about one lakh of rupees, provided the Purgunas are equitably assessed (as was originally intended) in proportion to the quantity and quality of the land brought under cultivation in each.

5. On this occasion I beg leave to refer you to the 2nd paragraph of my letter to the Resident, forwarded to Government under date the 30th of September last, and to state, that the damage Rajpeepla is therein reported to have sustained (great as it unfortunately is) falls far short of what my subsequent inquiries have ascertained it to be. Not only were villages on the banks of the Nerbudda entirely swept away, but all the crops of the first harvest, growing on a tract of land varying from three to five koss distant from that river, were entirely destroyed. Many villages have also lost a quantity of the most fertile land attached to them, by the encroachments of the river, and a larger quantity has been permanently rendered unfit for cultivation,

in consequence of gravel and sand to the depth of several feet having been deposited upon it when the floods subsided.

6. Such is the melancholy situation which Rajpeepla has been reduced to, by an event over which human foresight had no control. Its former condition has so frequently, and so fully been laid before Government, that I shall not trespass upon its attention by recapitulating. It is, however, necessary briefly to state the demands which are most likely to be made against it during the present year, in order that some arrangement may be devised which will provide the means for their being met to the farthest extent possible.

7. The first demand will be the amount of the Nemnook of the expenses of the Government, which was fixed last year (and certainly upon the most economical and moderate scale possible) at Rs. 90,000; 2nd, the provision of Purtaub Sing, the ex-claimant, to be fixed at Rs. 8,400; 3rd, the balance due to the Komavisdar of the Gaekwar Government, about Rs. 28,000; 4th, the balance due to the Government Potdar, about Rs. 20,000; 5th, the Gaekwar tribute, which has been fixed at Rs. 65,000, but fortunately with a reservation that the amount should be reduced on the occurrence of any Asmance or Sultanee misfortune; 6th, the balance of last year's tribute, amounting to Rs. 35,000; and 7th, an instalment of that part of the Rajpeepla debt under the Company's guarantee, amounting to Rs. 1,25,000. These demands I have mentioned, not from any idea that it is practicable that a third part of them can possibly be met by this year's resources, but because I know they all have already been, or will be brought forward. They may all be considered in the light of public demands, and are exclusive of those which have been brought forward by the private creditors of the State.

8. The three first items must, I consider, be indispensably provided for during the present year; the payment of the fourth may be delayed until some future period. The wisdom of Government will decide how the fifth item is to be disposed of, and what portion of it should be remitted by the Gaekwar Government under the reservation clause I have already alluded to. The sixth item must unavoidably, for the present, remain unnoticed, as also must the greater portion of the seventh and last item.

9. I have now briefly laid before Government the estimated receipts and demands of Rajpeepla for this year; and at the same time have ventured to point out which of the latter, in my judgment, must be provided for this year, and those the meeting of which may be delayed until some future year. Some arrangement has, however, become necessary to raise means for liquidating the former, and the only one which has occurred to me, after the best and most careful consideration, is that of farming out the seven principal districts of Rajpeepla (viz. Nandod, Wurrctec, Bhalad, Gowalee, Loona, Jugreea, and Ruttonpoor) to persons of wealth and respectability.

10. I shall hereafter have the honour of laying before Government the details of this plan, and the precise nature of the terms entered into between the Raja and the farmers; but in order to enable an opinion to be formed of the expediency or otherwise of adopting it, I now submit what I would respectfully recommend should form their basis.

11. *1st*, The period of the farm not to be less than five, nor more than eight years; *2nd*, the districts to be farmed out to separate persons; *3rd*, the amount paid for the farm to increase year by year; *4th*, each farmer to furnish, year by year to the Raja, the most unexceptionable Soucar security, for the payment, to the Government Potdars, of the amount he agrees to pay for his farm at fixed periods and instalments; *5th*, each farmer to furnish to the Raja unexceptionable security against his oppressing the Ryuts, and for his encouraging and promoting the cultivation of waste land to the utmost of his power; and *6th*, the Raja's Thanadars to remain in the districts as usual, and to have vested in them the police of the country.

12. I am aware that the farming system is not free from objections; and I should not have ventured to suggest, on the part of the Rajpeepla Government, that it should be adopted in the present instance, did not several very great and important advantages appear to me as likely to arise from its adoption, the chief of which are the following:—*1st*, the introduction of seven men of capital into the Rajpeepla principality, who will, from motives of self-interest, and in expectation of future gain, be willing to lay it out in the improvement of the country, and in bringing the waste lands into cultivation—a consideration of greater consequence, from the circumstances in which the Raja is placed rendering it impossible for him (however much inclined he might be to do so) to promote and facilitate these objects to a similar extent; *2nd*, the doing away with the necessity which at present exists of so direct and minute interference being exercised by the British Government in the internal management of Rajpeepla; *3rd*, an increase in this year's revenue beyond the estimated amount; and *4th*, the furnishing certain data by which Rajpeepla may be relieved from its present embarrassments, and by which the Gaekwar demands may be gradually liquidated.

13. The mode by which the third object will be obtained, is that the farmer will agree to pay a larger sum this year than he is able to collect, under the certainty that it will be made up to him by the profit which will be allowed him in the remaining years of his farm. He will also be further induced to submit to a temporary loss from the certainty that if he, in the first year of his lease, over-assessed the Ryuts, they would abandon the district which he farms.

14. In conclusion, I beg to be favoured with the instructions of the Honorable the Governor in Council at his earliest convenience, the advanced period

of the season rendering it necessary that either this, or whatever other arrangement he may think more expedient, should be carried into effect with the least possible delay. My present proposal would have been submitted at an earlier period, but it is only within these few days that I have received the accounts necessary to enable me to form the estimate I have made of the resources of Rajpeepla for this year. These accounts, together with the intimate knowledge I have acquired, during the period of my deputations to that State, of the condition of almost every village in it, may perhaps be a sufficient pledge to Government that the present estimate is nearly correct, provided the former extortion and exactions exercised over the unfortunate Ryuts are not again to be resorted to. I shall, in the mean time, in communication with the Rajpeepla Government, receive and inquire into the terms which several persons (who I have learnt are inclined to take the farm of some of the districts, and whose characters are well known to me) may offer, taking care to ratify no engagement before a reply to my present letter is received.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assist. Resident in Charge.

Baroda Residency, 3rd January 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. FARISH, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To the ASSISTANT IN CHARGE of the Residency at Baroda.

Dated 23rd January 1823.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 3rd of this month, reporting the probable resources of the Rajpeepla State for the current year.

2. The Honorable the Governor in Council approves of the plan you have suggested for farming the districts of that Principality, which is justified by the necessity of the case.

3. Care, however, must be taken to secure both the Rajpeepla State and the Ryuts against the encroachments of the farmers.

4. The Honorable the Governor in Council at the same time requests you to state your opinion as to the amount of the Gaekwar's tribute which ought to be remitted in consequence of the calamities of last year.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. FARISH, Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 23rd January 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 9th February 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Farish's letter, dated the 23rd ultimo, approving of the plan proposed by Mr. Willoughby for farming the districts of Rajpeepla, and in reply to transmit, for the information of Government, copy of a letter I have written to that gentleman, requesting him to proceed to Nandod to effect the above object, and also containing instructions for his guidance on this and other points.

2. I shall hereafter have the honour more particularly to report upon the several topics therein alluded to, when the arrangements have been carried into effect, or have been reported upon by Mr. Willoughby.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 9th February 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident.

Dated 6th February 1823.

SIR,—With reference to your letter to Mr. Farish, dated the 3rd ultimo, reporting upon the probable resources of Rajpeepla for the current year, and suggesting that in consequence of the heavy calamity which lately occurred in that country, that its principal districts should be farmed for a specific period, I have the honour to request you will be pleased to proceed at your earliest convenience to Nandod, for the purpose of carrying your plan into effect, the same having been honoured with the approval of Government in Mr. Farish's letter of the 23rd ultimo.

2. I have perused the draft of the agreement which you propose should be mutually rendered by the Raja of Rajpeepla and the farmers, and have much pleasure in acquainting you the same appears to me to be very judicious, and well calculated to attain the objects contemplated in your letter to Government of the 3rd ultimo. It is certainly most advantageous to the Raja, and secures both the Rajpeepla State and the Ryut against the encroachment of the farmer.

3. I have only therefore to hope that your endeavours to induce persons of wealth and respectability to engage to take the lease of the districts, upon

those terms, will prove successful ; and as it is not to be supposed that any one will do so except a pledge is given that the Raja will himself abide by the terms, you are authorised to promise the guarantee of the British Government to that effect ; subject, however, to the final approval of Government of those terms, and of the persons who may agree to them. In granting such assurance, we are only following the practice in Kattywar, directed and sanctioned in Mr. Warden's letter to the Political Agent in that Province, dated the 6th of June 1821.

4. You will be pleased to report your opinion upon the amount of remission which should be demanded from the Gaekwar tribute this year due from Rajpeepla, incident to the late calamity with which it has been visited, as directed in the concluding paragraph of Mr. Farish's despatch of the 23rd ultimo.

5. You are aware of the reduction which His Highness Syajee Rao Gaekwar has consented to make in the debt claimed by him from Rajpeepla, and you will be pleased to report your opinion upon the best mode of liquidating the balance remaining by annual instalments, the amount of which will of course in a great measure depend upon the terms you are able to procure from those who may undertake the farm of the districts.

6. I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter and its accompaniment from Mr. Chief Secretary Warden, dated the 29th of July last, directing your deputation to Rajpeepla for the purpose of effecting a settlement of the claims of the family of the late Jewa Wussawa. It will also be necessary that this should include an arrangement confirming the dependence of that family upon the Rajpeepla State, and defining the mutual rights of each. The experience you have already acquired of arrangements of this nature, precludes the necessity of my furnishing detailed instructions for your guidance ; it is sufficient for me to recommend that the arrangement now to be concluded with this family should resemble in its nature those you last year effected with the Bheel Chieftains Cowreea and Ryesingjee ; taking care, however, that the same does not in any degree interfere with the engagement Jewa's family have concluded with the British Government.

7. You will also be pleased to report and inquire into the complaints preferred by the Collector of Broach in his recent letter to your address, against the manager of the district of Ruttonpoor, and in case you are fully satisfied that he is unworthy or incapable of performing the duties of the situation he holds, you may advise the local Government to remove him. The misconduct, however, may have partly arisen from an irregularity in the Collector's proceedings, of making applications direct to the Thanadar to deliver up the subjects of the Raja accused of committing offences, instead of applying through the Resident at Baroda, who himself has not the power to

make such a demand except through the Raja. In coming to a decision, therefore, upon the point in question, you must give this circumstance due consideration.

8. Government having been pleased to approve of the measures proposed by you in your late correspondence with the Collectors of Broach and Surat for the final settlement of the claims preferred by the Geerasias of Rajpeepla from the districts under their control, you will acquaint the Raja of the same, and request him to issue the necessary instructions to his Geerasia subjects to attend at the Collectors' office (at the time they may appoint) either themselves, or to send their agents. Mr. Greenhill has already fixed the middle of next month as the period at which he will be able to enter upon the inquiries which must necessarily be made before a final settlement of these claims can be concluded, of which you will duly apprise the Raja.

9. You will be pleased to charge for your contingent expenses in the manner sanctioned by Government during your last deputation to Rajpeepla, and as the limited number of Peons attached to the Residency does not enable me to reduce their number with convenience, you are authorised to entertain temporarily whatever number are absolutely required.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 6th February 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,

TO THE RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 21st February 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th of this month, forwarding a copy of your instructions to your Assistant, directing him to proceed to Nandod for the purpose of effecting the plan proposed for farming the districts of Rajpeepla.

The Honorable the Governor in Council approves of the tenor of your instructions to Mr. Willoughby.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 21st February 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 3rd March 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, on deputation in Rajpeepla, to my address, dated the 20th ultimo, acknowledging the receipt of my instructions to him of the 6th February, which are already before Government, and informing me of his having effected the lease of the seven principal Purgunas of that province to persons of character and wealth, contenting himself for the present with causing the Raja and the farmers to furnish mutual agreements for each district, subject to the final approval of the Honorable the Governor in Council.

2. As all the agreements are of a similar nature, varying only according to the size or value of the districts, one only has been submitted for the notice of Government, that for the Purguna of Naudod. This farm has been undertaken by two very respectable people, one, the son of a wealthy Ameen of Baroda, who received the guarantee of the British Government from Colonel Walker, and the other, the present head of the firm of Hurree Buktee, banker of Baroda; and I observe that the remaining six Purgunas are farmed by persons equally fitted, from their profession and station, to insure the prosperity of the country.

3. The farms have been given for a period of seven years owing to the impoverished state of the districts, and in the reasonable hope that the farmer being secure of his tenure for so long a period, would, with less hesitation, lay out money in improving the cultivation and population of his farm.

4. The leases are drawn out with a view of allowing a fair profit to the farmer, and of giving full scope to his desire of increasing the number of cultivators, and they equally secure the Ryut from undue exactions, and the farmer from loss by the refusal of the cultivators to pay their regular assessments. The lease consists of fifteen Articles, and as a translate of the one for the Nandod Purguna accompanies Mr. Willoughby's despatch, which contains the reasons for the insertion of each article separately, which appear to me very judicious, I shall not take up the time of the Honorable the Governor in Council by any further remarks.

5. The second enclosure exhibits the names of the seven districts farmed out, with those of their respective farmers, and the amount settled for each year, which is progressive. That for the first two years is necessarily very low, arising from the miserable state of the Purgunas when delivered over by the Gaekwar's officer to the Raja, and the great loss sustained last year by the overflowing of

the River Nerbudda. The farmers cannot expect to derive any benefit from their farms until the expiration of the third year.

6. The Honorable the Governor in Council will observe that the police of the country is entirely vested in the Raja, which at once removes one great apprehension of the Ryuts suffering from the oppression of the farmers.

7. The rights also of the Geerasias and Zumindars have been secured, and one great means of exaction has been taken away by the insertion of the 8th Article in the conditions of the lease, defining the extra collections from the villages on account of Bhojun Kurch, and Dermada, or the village expenses in charity, and provision for the Thanadars.

8. The whole of the arrangements reflect great credit upon Mr. Willoughby, and meet with my cordial approbation; I trust they will be equally satisfactory to the Honorable the Governor in Council, and that I may at an early period be empowered to affix the guarantee of the British Government to the several agreements, which it is expedient should be done with as little delay as possible.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 3rd March 1823.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident, on Deputation,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident, Baroda.

Dated 20th February 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 6th instant, directing me to proceed to Rajpeepla, and furnishing me with instructions for my guidance in accomplishing the objects of my deputation.

2. With reference to the three first paragraphs of your letter, I have the pleasure to inform you that I have succeeded in leasing out the seven principal districts of this State to persons of unexceptionable character, and upon very advantageous terms to the Government.

3. I have, for the present, contented myself with causing both the Rajpeepla Government and the farmers to furnish mutual agreements for each separate district, delaying their final ratification until their terms have been approved of by the Honorable the Governor in Council.

4. As all these agreements contain exactly similar terms, with the exception of the amount for which each district is farmed (which is more or less according to the size and value of each), it is sufficient for the present to forward copy and translation of the one, which has been concluded for the district of Nandod, in explanation of which I shall now offer a few remarks.

5. It will be observed that the period of the lease is seven years, viz. from the beginning of Sumvut 1879 (or A. D. 1822-23), to the end of Sumvut 1885 (A. D. 1828-29). This was the shortest period for which the farmers would undertake the lease, principally because the reduced state of the districts renders a loss in its first years inevitable, which they naturally would not consent to incur unless it was of sufficient duration to render it probable that such would be repaid to them in the last years of the farm.

6. The 1st Article of the agreement fixes the amount to be paid each year for the farm, which, according to the original plan, progressively increases year by year. In all the agreements this increase is very considerable : in the one I am now remarking upon, the farmer agrees to pay the sum of Rs. 38,001 for the first, and Rs. 69,801 for the last year of his lease, which he will be enabled to do by the increased population and cultivation he will cause to arise in his district. This article also stipulates that the amount of the farm is to be paid by four equal instalments annually, at certain given periods, and that the farmer is to give Soucaree security for the payment of the amount of his farm, year by year, on the 2nd of Kartick Sood, a stipulation which at once secures the regular payment of the Kists as they become due.

7. The 2nd Article authorises the farmer to collect the whole produce of the district rented by him ; promises that he shall not be molested by any one in doing so ; and that complaints made against him for making the usual collections will not be attended to. These being usual stipulations, do not require any remark.

8. The 3rd Article stipulates that compensation is to be made to the farmer for any injury he may sustain from the attacks and robberies made by the Bheels and Mehwasces residing in Rajpeela and its vicinity, and that if such is not made, a deduction equal to the amount of the damage sustained will be made from the amount to be paid to Government for his farm. By this stipulation some small deduction may be anticipated from the annual amount for which the districts are farmed. This is however unavoidable, for the request of the farmer that such a stipulation should be made in his favour was not unreasonable, the police of the country not being vested in him, but still retained by the Raja. Its insertion will also in no small degree tend to the preservation of the peace of the country, by rendering it the interest of the Government to prevent the commission of crime, and to do all in its power to detect the offenders when offences are committed, in order to cause the compensation to be made good by them instead of by itself.

9. The 4th Article provides against all undue oppression being exercised over the Ryuts : the farmer is to make an equitable assessment with them, but not to make unjust exactions from them. In making this assessment, the

farmer is to keep in view the *Abadee* of the district, and whatever lands are brought by him into cultivation, the profit is to be his. These are important stipulations in favour of the Ryuts, and provided the Government exercise a proper supervision over the acts of the farmer, they are effectually secured from the exactions of the latter. The greatest security on this point, however, is the private interest of the farmer to be just and merciful to the Ryuts, for it is only by increasing their number, and bringing the waste lands into cultivation, that he can hope to realize the amount he pays for his farm, and much less a profit from it.

10. The 5th Article provides for a Thanadar and a certain number of horse and foot being stationed in each district, on the part of the Raja, to preserve its peace and tranquillity. It also allows a certain number of horse and foot to the farmer, to assist him in making his collections. The number allowed is very few, and the expense of any others which the farmer may require is to be borne by himself. This provision has also been inserted as a check against the encroachments of the farmer. They all wished that no Thanadars should be stationed in the districts, but that the police of the country should be entirely vested in them. To this, however, in conformity with the original plan, I did not think right to accede; and a most important part of the duty of the Thanadars is to watch over the proceedings of the farmers, and report them to Government.

11. The 6th Article does not require any particular explanation, as it merely stipulates that no one shall indirectly take any of the produce of the districts farmed; but if the Ryuts choose to give the Government a Nuzzerana on the occurrence of a marriage or any other particular occasion, it will be received through the farmer, but not taken through any other channel.

12. The 7th Article promises that the farmer shall not be molested by the Rajpeeppla Government, or any other Government, during the period he holds his farm; that at the expiration of it, he is to deliver up the district in an *Abad* or flourishing condition to the Government; and that whatever sum he may in the last year of the lease advance as *Tukavee* to the Ryuts, will be repaid to him on producing the persons to whom it was advanced, with their bonds. These stipulations do not require remark, being just and fair both to the Government and the farmer.

13. The 8th Article provides for the collection by the farmer of the customary contingent expenses of his district, under the heads of *Dermada* or charity, and *Bhojun Kurch* or provision for the Thanadars. I have seen the memorandum alluded to therein, which specifies the amount due from each, which is very small (the total amount due from the seven districts being only Rs. 5,087), and at once secures the Ryuts from exactions which are so usual

on the above heads, it being the interest of the farmer to allow of nothing beyond the sum mentioned being collected.

14. The 9th Article provides that whatever profit or loss may arise from the farm is to devolve upon the farmer.

15. The 10th Article provides for the payment of whatever just rights belong to Geerasias, Zumindars, or any other persons, from the place from whence they are due; and further, if any disputes arise on this subject, the Government is to investigate and settle them, according to justice. This is a very important provision, securing from the encroachment of the farmer the just and established rights of individuals of all descriptions, and appointing an authority to decide upon any dispute which may arise between them.

16. The 11th Article provides for the recovery of any balance of Tukavee or revenue which may be due to the Gaekwar Government, by instalments fixed by the farmer, in proportion to the ability of the persons from whom it is due. The 12th Article provides in a similar manner for the recovery of the Tukavee advanced by the Rajpeepla Government the last year, and also for the balance of revenue outstanding for the same year. A part of the latter, however, in consequence of the distressed condition of many of the Ryuts, occasioned by the inundation of the Nerbudda, is to be remitted by the Government, and the remainder is not to be collected in this, but in the two following years, by small instalments, which render the burthen comparatively light and easy to the Ryuts.

17. The 13th Article stipulates that all Doomala villages held by individuals are still to continue in their possession; but whatever is usually paid by the holders of them to the Government is included in the farmer's lease. The 14th Article relates to the disposal of fines which may be levied from the inhabitants of each district, viz. that those which are levied in consequence of thefts upon the produce of the field belong to the farmer, but those levied on any other account to the Government.

18. The 15th and last Article of the agreement contains the usual stipulation, that on the occurrence of any Sultanee or Asmanee misfortune, during the period of the lease, a Mehta will be sent on the part of the Government to ascertain the gross produce and expenses of management, after which the balance due to the farmer will be paid to him, with interest at the rate of 12 annas per cent. per mensem. I need not, in reference to this stipulation, observe, that no one, without it had been inserted, would have undertaken the farm, in consequence of the great risk which would be incurred; and it is only to be hoped, that there will never be any occasion for the farmer to avail himself of this provision against any very extraordinary losses.

19. The agreement concludes with an assurance on the part of the Rajpeepla Government that it will abide in conformity with its provisions, for

which the guarantee of the British Government is promised, upon the faith of which alone the farmer engages to abide by it also.

20. I now beg leave to draw your attention to the second enclosure of my letter, which is a statement drawn out to show at one view the amount for which each district is farmed year by year, the progressive increase in that amount for each year, the sum total of each for the whole period of the farm, and the names of the farmers.

21. Regarding the amount to be paid by the farmers, few observations are necessary, it being evidently much larger and more advantageous to the State than under the present circumstances of the districts could reasonably have been expected, for it will be observed to more than double itself within the period of the lease. That these terms have been obtained, I can only attribute to the general stagnation of trade at the present moment, to the productive powers of the districts, but, above all, to the value attached to the guarantee of the British Government, held, as it is, to be ever sacred and inviolable.

22. It only now remains for me to inform you who are the persons who have been induced to undertake these farms upon the conditions as above explained, in doing which I shall be brief, most of them being already known to you as men of good character and possessed of very considerable wealth. The persons to whom the farm of Nandod has been given are Wasunbhiye and Bacherdas; the former a son of Khandas Wagjee, one of the wealthiest Ameens of the Baroda Purguna. His father was one of those who received the Bhandary of the British Government from Colonel Walker, which is still enjoyed by the family: this circumstance may be considered as some security for his good conduct. Regarding the second person, I need say no more than that he is the adopted son of the late Samul Buktee, and the present head of the wealthy firm of Hurree Buktee and Co. of Baroda. The two farmers of the Wurreetee Purguna are Pectamber and Wasunbhye; the former is a wealthy Shroff of Baroda, and the latter is the same person who farms part of the Nandod Purguna. The farmer of the Bhalode district is Bapoobhye Bhychundbhye, a Desae of Baroda, and possessing the Bhandary of the British Government in the same manner as Khandas Wagjee. The farmers of the Gowalee district are Wureybhye, another wealthy Desae of Baroda, and Pectamber, the same person who has rented a part of the Wurreetee district. The farmer of Jugreea is a Shroff of considerable wealth, inhabitant of Ahmedabad, who has dealings both in that place and in Baroda. The renter of the Loona district is one of the partners of the Rajpeepla Government Potdaree established last year, and of course the interest he has in that concern is sufficient security for his good conduct. The farmers of the Ruttonpoor Purguna are Runchoor, a wealthy Banian Shroff of Baroda, and Shewlall, the principal manager of the affairs of the firm of Hurree Buktee and Co., both of whom are well known

to you. From this summary it will be observed the farmers are either wealthy Shroffs or Zumindars, which are certainly the most desirable classes from which they could have been selected.

23. In conclusion, I beg leave to acquaint you that the persons concerned in these transactions have been put in charge of their respective districts by the Rajpeepla Government, the advanced state of the season not admitting of any delay in this respect. All that now remains to be done, is for my proceedings in behalf of the Raja to be decided upon by Government, and if approved of, to be subsequently ratified by the Raja's seal and the affixing of the Company's guarantee to the agreement.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

First Assistant Resident, on Deputation.

Camp Nandod, 20th February 1823.

Translation of an Agreement entered into by Maharana Verisal, Chieftain of Rajpeepla, with Wasunbhye and Bacherdas, inhabitants of Baroda.

I farm to you the Purguna of Nandod belonging to me, with all its *Abad* villages, its waste villages, its Chotuck villages, with the accustomed Government collections from its Doomala villages, its collections on account of Khe-busha land, with all its other ordinary collections, in toto, from the 5th of Ashad Soed, Sumvut 1878, or 23rd of June 1822, to the 5th of Ashad Sood, Sumvut 1885, or August 1828-29.

Having made this engagement for seven years of my own free will, I have entrusted to you the Purguna upon the following terms:—

I. I have engaged with you to receive the undermentioned sums for the farm year by year:—

- 1st. Sumvut 1879, Rupees 38,001.
- 2nd. Sumvut 1880, Rupees 50,801.
- 3rd. Sumvut 1881, Rupees 55,801.
- 4th. Sumvut 1882, Rupees 58,801.
- 5th. Sumvut 1883, Rupees 63,801.
- 6th. Sumvut 1884, Rupees 66,801.
- 7th. Sumvut 1885, Rupees 69,801.

In conformity with this, the total for the seven years is Rupees 4,03,807. The Kists for the payment of the amount due for each year are as follows:—

- 1st. Of Margseer Sood the 2nd.
- 2nd. Of Poas Sood the 2nd.
- 3rd. Of Phalgoon Spod the 2nd.
- 4th. Of Chytur Sood the 2nd.

In this manner you must pay the amount of the farm for each year, in four equal instalments to the Government Potdar, and take his receipt. You must also give Soucaree security for the amount every year, on the 2nd of Kartick Sood.

II. You are to collect the whole produce of the aforesaid Purguna with care, in doing which no one will give you any molestation. If any Zumindar, Desace, Kamdar, Patel, &c. shall indirectly molest you, and complain against your making the fixed collections from the inhabitants of the Purguna, and shall make disturbances, or cause any other person to do so, I will not hear them, but will order them to pay according to the rate at which the Purguna may be assessed, and direct them not to make disturbances.

III. In the province of Rajpeepla, and its vicinity, reside Bheels, Meh-wasees, and Geerasias; therefore if they in the aforesaid Purguna shall commit any injury to its villages, or their inhabitants, or, coming in gangs, shall steal the corn when in the fields, or damage the grain when brought into the Kullee, or shall seize and carry off any person, or shall commit Jhansa, the Raj Sirkar will cause compensation to be made for the damage sustained. If a settlement is not made, then a deduction shall be made from the amount of the farm equal to the damage sustained.

IV. Whatever Gunvut (rate of assessment) or agreement you may make (keeping in view the *Abalce* of the district) during the seven years of your farm, no one will interfere therewith. Having given assurances to the inhabitants of the district, whatever land you may bring into cultivation the profit shall be yours; but you must do this keeping the Ryuts comfortable, and making no unjust oppression or exaction upon any one.

V. The Raja's Thana stationed to take care of the above districts, will be composed as follows :—

- 1 Thanadar.
- 25 Horsemen.
- 68 Peeadas.

A memorandum has been separately given to the Thanadar, containing orders for his guidance how to conduct himself, in conformity to which he will act; but if he does not do so, and does not comply with your wishes in taking care of the district, he will be removed, and another proper person will be appointed by the Sirkar in his room.

The undermentioned Aswars and Peeadas will be attached to you to assist you in making your collections :—

- 2 Aswars.
- 4 Peeadas.

In conformity to your directions they will act. If they do not conduct themselves properly, you may entertain people of your own in their place, and their pay will be given you from the expenses of the Seebundy of the Raj

Sirkar ; but if you entertain additional Sepoys beyond the number given to you, their expense will fall upon you. .

VI. No one shall indirectly take any of the produce of the villages of the district. If the Ryuts will voluntarily give the Sirkar a Nuzzerana on account of a marriage, &c., it shall be received through you. The Sirkar will not take any without your knowledge.

VII. You shall not be molested by the Raj Sirkar, or by any other, during the period of your lease. Upon this point rest satisfied. In the eighth year you must restore the aforesaid district in an (*Abad*) or populous condition. Whatever sums you may advance in the last year of the lease to the Ryuts for Tukavee (*i. e.* to buy cattle or seed) shall be repaid to you on producing the persons and their bonds.

VIII. The annual Sader Khurch (contingent expenses) beyond the regular assessed revenue of the villages of the aforesaid Purguna on account of Dermada (charity), Bhojun Khurch, &c., you must divide amongst the several villages, and collect it from them according to custom. A separate memorandum has been given to you enumerating them.

IX. Whatever profit or loss arises from the produce of this farm for seven years will be yours.

X. Whatever just rights are possessed in the above district by Geerasias, Zumindars, or any other persons in the aforesaid district, you must cause them to be paid from the place from whence they are due, during the seven years of your farm. If any one makes a dispute upon this subject, then you must make the same known to the Sirkar, and it will settle the dispute according to justice.

XI. Whatever balance of revenue or Tukavee is due from the inhabitants of the villages of the above Purguna to the Gaekwar Government, will be told to you, and the persons from whom it may be due will be pointed out to you. In conformity with their ability, and paying regard to their means, whatever annual instalments you may fix for its recovery, you must collect the same, and pay the amount to the Government Potdar.

XII. Whatever ready money for Tukavee was given by the Rajpepla Government in the present year to the inhabitants of the above Purguna, you must collect with interest, and pay the same into the shop of the Government Potdar, and take his receipt. For the last year there is a balance due to the Government from this Purguna from its Khabudeea lands, but in the above year some persons were ruined by the calamity which occurred in it; you must therefore collect the balance which may remain due from them (after deducting such remissions which through you the Sirkar may agree to make, out of consideration to their situation) in the two years 1880 and 1881, and pay the same to the Potdar and take his receipt.

XIII. Whatever persons have always enjoyed in the above Purguna Doomala villages, the same must continue to enjoy them as usual. They are not included in your lease, but whatever the Sirkar is accustomed to take from them, this is yours.

XIV. It is the custom in the above Purguna to fine any person who may commit crimes and offences. If the offence may be for stealing corn or other produce of the soil, then whatever fines may be levied is included in your farm, but besides them, whatever fines (Dundfurree) may be levied on account of crimes of every other description by the Thanadar through you in proportion to the ability of the offender, their amount will not be yours, but the Sirkar's.

XV. If, by the will of Providence, at any time any unforeseen (Sultanee or Asmanee) misfortune should befall the above district, the Raj Sirkar in that year will send a Metha into the above district to make inquiries, and to ascertain the gross produce and expense; after this inquiry, whatever balance may justly remain due to you, the same, with interest at the rate of 12 annas per cent. per mensem, shall be paid to you.

In this manner, having consented to this agreement of fifteen Articles, the farm of the above Purguna is granted to you for seven years, in conformity to which the Raj Sirkar will abide, for the fulfilment of which the assurances of the Honorable Company's Sirkar has been given. What is written is correct.

Signed by PURWOODAS WURNASVDAS,
on the part of the Rajpeepla State.

Wasunbhye and Bacherdas agree to the above written engagement on receiving the guarantee of the Honorable Company's Sirkar that its conditions will be duly fulfilled.

(Signed) WASUNBHIYE and BACHERDAS.

Statement exhibiting the Names of the Seven Districts of Rajpepla which have been Farmed from Sumvut 1879 (or A. D. 1822-23) to Sumvut 1885 (or A. D. 1828-29); the progressive Increase in the Amount of the Farm for each year; the Total Amount paid for the Lease; and the Names of the Farmers of each District.

Number.	Names of the different Purganas Farmed.	Amount for which each is Farmed for Sumvut 1879 (A. D. 1822-23).	Amount of Do. for Sumvut 1880 (A. D. 1823-24).	Amount of Do. for Sumvut 1881 (A. D. 1824-25).	Amount of Do. for Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26).	Amount of Do. for Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1826-27).	Amount of Do. for Sumvut 1884 (A. D. 1827-28).	Amount of Do. for Sumvut 1885 (A. D. 1828-29).	Total Sum to be paid by each Farmer for the Seven Years' Lease.	Names of the Farmers.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Nandod	38,001	50,801	55,801	58,801	63,801	66,801	69,801	4,03,807	Wasunbhye and Bacherdas.
2	Wurreetee	15,501	20,001	24,001	28,001	31,001	33,001	35,001	1,86,507	Petamber and Wasunbhye.
3	Bhalode	13,001	18,001	22,001	26,001	28,001	32,001	34,001	1,73,007	Bapooobhye Bhychundbhye.
4	Gowalee	9,001	11,001	13,001	15,001	16,001	17,001	19,001	1,00,007	Wureybhye and Petamber.
5	Lugreea	9,501	13,001	15,001	16,001	18,001	19,001	20,001	1,10,507	Hurreebhye Himutall.
6	Loona	8,001	9,001	10,001	11,001	12,001	13,001	14,001	77,007	Dajeebhye Jadowjee.
7	Ruttonpoor	16,001	21,001	25,001	30,001	32,001	34,001	35,001	1,93,007	Runchoor and Shewtall.
	Total...	1,09,007	1,32,807	1,64,807	1,84,807	2,00,807	2,14,897	2,26,807	12,43,849	

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
First Assist. Resident, on Deputation.

Camp Nandod, 20th February 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To THE RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 15th March 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 3rd of this month, forwarding the copy of one from your Assistant, on deputation in Rajpeepla, of the 20th ultimo, reporting his having leased out the seven principal districts of that province, to persons of character and wealth.

The Governor in Council is pleased to approve and confirm all the agreements concluded by Mr. Willoughby relating to these districts, and authorises the guarantee of the British Government being affixed to them accordingly.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 15th March 1823.

ENGAGEMENTS ENTERED INTO
THROUGH THE AGENCY OF MR. J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
BY THE RAJA OF RAJPEEPLA,

IN THE YEAR 1823,

FOR THE PAYMENT TO HIS HIGHNESS THE GAEKWAR OF
AN ANNUAL TRIBUTE OF RUPEES 65,001, AND FOR THE
GRANT OF A PROVISION FOR THE SUPPORT OF SOORUJ-
KOOR BAE AND HER ALLEGED SON PURTAUB SING ;

ALSO,

A GENERAL AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BY
MR. WILLOUGHBY WITH THE RAJA,

DURING THE SAME YEAR,

WITH THE VIEW OF ENSURING THAT CHIEF'S FUTURE
GOOD BEHAVIOUR.

ENGAGEMENTS* ENTERED INTO BY THE RAJPEEPLA RAJA.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 1st April 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, on deputation in Rajpeepla, to my address, transmitting an original bond executed by the Raja, for the payment of the tribute to the Gaekwar, similar in tenor to those furnished by other tributaries. A bond has also been taken from the Raja binding him to make the provision for Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing already sanctioned by Government. The division made of this between the parties by Mr. Willoughby appears just and expedient, and the renunciation of all claim upon the Gadee of Rajpeepla by Purtaub Sing, on receiving this settlement, is but reasonable.

2. The draft of the proposed agreement with the Raja, which forms the third enclosure to Mr. Willoughby's letter, having only in view the determining the nature of the engagements which the intimate connexion of the Raja's Government with our own has necessarily obliged him to form under our assistance and advice, appears to me to be indispensably requisite. It binds the Raja to nothing more than he has already acceded to in engaging to act by our advice; but it removes all temptation to attempts at evasion in the performance of any of these engagements, and it marks so clearly the line of conduct to be observed by the Raja in the management of his country without impairing his authority, that I am sanguine in the hope of its meeting with the approval of the Honorable the Governor in Council.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 1st April 1823.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident, on Deputation
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident, Baroda.

Dated 29th March 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit an original bond I have caused the Raja of Rajpeepla to enter into, promising to pay annually the sum of Rs. 65,000.

* Vide also page 524 of this Selection.

tribute to the Gaekwar Government. As this does not differ from the bonds taken from the other tributaries of the Gaekwar Government, the nature of which is so well known, no observations are necessary from me in explanation thereof.

2. I have also the honour to forward another original bond executed by the Raja, agreeing to pay the Nemnook fixed at your suggestion, and already sanctioned by Government, for the maintenance of Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing, amounting to Rs. 8,400 per annum, independently of two villages to be retained by the former. This, according to my former suggestion, is drawn out in the name of Soorujkoor; but to prevent the possibility of disputes arising between the parties concerned, the proportion due to each is specified.

3. To Soorujkoor is assigned 200 Rupees per mensem, and the produce of the two villages above alluded to, and to Purtaub Sing the remaining 500 Rupees per mensem. I hope this division of the maintenance will meet with your approbation. The reasons of the larger sum being assigned to Purtaub Sing, are two: 1st, because his expenses must be greater than those of Soorujkoor; and 2nd, because the latter (were it not for the peculiar circumstances of her situation) would not be entitled, by the custom of this State, to any additional provision beyond that afforded her from the villages she is still allowed to retain.

4. At the conclusion of the bond an allusion is made to a paper the Raja requests he may receive from Soorujkoor on her receiving the above Nemnook. A draft of this is also herewith transmitted, and simply acknowledges the acceptance of the Nemnook, and stating that no claim now exists from the Rajpeepla State on the part of Partaub Sing. I cannot consider the expectation of the Raja that he should receive such a document to be unreasonable, nor has any objection occurred to me against its being demanded.

5. I also take this opportunity to enclose the draft of an agreement, and its translation, which I would propose the Rajpeepla State should enter into, binding itself to abide by the arrangements which have been concluded with it through the British Government. It is true that it has already furnished a bond binding itself to abide by the advice it may receive from the British Government, but this appears to be of too general a nature, and considering the great responsibility which has been entailed upon the British Government by the late arrangements, something more specific and defined than the above general promise appears desirable.

6. As, however, the point is one of considerable importance, I have not thought myself authorised to make any proposition regarding it to the Raja, without first submitting it for your consideration and instructions.

7. The agreement now proposed commences by alluding to the dispute which formerly existed for the sovereignty of Rajpeepla, and the decision

which was finally passed by the Gaekwar and British Governments regarding it; and that in consequence the Raja in whose favour this decision was passed consents to subscribe to nine Articles binding him to pursue a certain line of conduct for the future, which will best be explained by an explanation of the articles themselves.

8. The 1st Article relates to the debts with which the Rajppeepla State is encumbered, and binds the Raja to adopt any plan which may be proposed by the Resident at Baroda for the liquidation of those which may be due to the Gaekwar Government. It further binds the Raja to limit the expenses of his Government to whatever proportion of its resources the Resident may at any time think it expedient to recommend should be fixed for this purpose.

9. The 2nd Article alludes to the separate bond which has been rendered for the regular annual payment of the Gaekwar tribute, in conformity with which the Raja promises to abide, with the usual reservation clause providing for remissions being made therefrom in the event of Asmanee or Sultanee misfortunes at any time befalling the tributary.

10. The 3rd Article alludes to the detachment of Company's troops stationed in Rajppeepla for its protection, and binds the Raja to agree to any mode which it may hereafter be deemed fair and reasonable to propose for reimbursing the expense which the arrangement occasions to the British Government. This article is not inserted with the view of making any immediate demand from the Raja on the above account, for such you are well aware could not be complied with for several years to come. Its insertion, however, appears to me to be just and expedient, and not at variance with the instructions of the Honorable the Governor in Council in Mr. Warden's letter dated the 28th of February 1822, viz. "that the demand of payment of our expenses need not be relinquished nor yet enforced."*

11. The 4th Article provides against disturbances being made by the Bheels and Mehwascees of Rajppeepla, in the districts of the British and Gaekwar Governments and their dependencies; and binds the Raja either to cause reparation to be made for any injury or disturbance they may commit, or to make it himself.

12. By the 5th Article the Raja promises not to harbour or associate with, or allow any one to harbour or associate with disturbers of the public peace, within the limits of his Talook.

13. By the 6th Article the Raja promises not to commit acts of aggression against any one, but that in case any dispute arises between him and any other Talookdar or Zumindar, the same is to be referred for the arbitration of the British Government, in conformity with whose decision the Raja is bound to abide.

* Vide page 531 of this Selection.

14. The 7th Article stipulates that no one shall offer any molestation to travellers journeying in Rajpeepla, and binds the Raja to make proper arrangements for their security and protection.

15. The 8th Article relates to the Geeras rights of the Rajpeepla Geerasias upon the Company's districts in the Broach and Surat Zillas; refers to the papers of agreement taken from them by me regarding these rights; and binds the Raja to cause the Geerasias to abide by whatever final settlement may be made respecting them.

16. The 9th and last Article provides against the illicit transit of opium through the Raja's territories, and binds this Government to comply with any future arrangements which the British Government may propose for the better regulation of the opium trade.

17. The agreement concludes by a clause making it binding in perpetuity, and constituting the Raja's Talook security for its being abided by. Such is the nature of the bond, which, under the peculiar circumstances of this petty State, I venture to recommend for your approval. Its terms are clear and explicit, and do not therefore require any further explanation. The security proposed is the only one which the Raja has it in his power to bestow, because he has no connection with other Talookdars, who might otherwise become security for him. It is certainly the most satisfactory, and one which perhaps the Raja would not to any other State voluntarily afford; but owing so much as he does to the interposition of the British Government; grateful as he feels for such having been made in his behalf; aware of the heavy responsibility the British Government has incurred in consequence; and having perfect reliance in our good faith, I have no doubt his acquiescence will be voluntarily given, under which idea I have proposed it should be demanded.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assist. Resident,
on Deputation.

Camp Nandod, 29th March 1823.

*Bond signed and delivered to Government by Maharana Verisal,
Raja of Rajpeepla, dated at Nandod the 10th of Falgoon Sood,
Sumvut 1879 (A. D. 20th February 1823).*

We have of our free will agreed to pay yearly, at Baroda, to the Gaekwar Government, for yearly Jumabundee and Ghansdana, the sum of (65,001) sixty-five thousand and one rupees.

The three villages in the Thana of Roond, viz. 1st, Roond, 2nd, Johoor, 3rd, Kotara, and the Zukat (inland duties), and the five Dunalala villages Wurkeir,

Poeecha, Washna, Hudda, Bhang, and Kokulpoor, and Roond near Bhalode, and the Seerpao yearly payable to us from the Gaekwar Government, and the Town of Burun, being all deducted, the sum total (65,001) sixty-five thousand and one rupees is settled, the instalments to be paid in the months of Poush, Falgoon, Chytru, and Waishak. In this manner from generation to generation, year by year, the sums shall be made good, under the mediation of the Honorable Company, and no deviation occur. On all matters of the above mentioned Talooka, whatever discussions on matters good or bad may arise, these shall be referred to the mediation of the Honorable Company, and we shall remain satisfied therein; nor shall there ever be a departure from this agreement. This we have written and signed.

(True translation)

(Signed) R. H. KENNEDY, Translator.

Bond entered into by the Raja Verisal of Rajpeepla, granting a provision to Ranee Soorujkoor Bae, dated at Nandod the 10th Falgoon Sood, Sumvut 1879 (A. D. February 20th 1823).

To Soorujkoor Bae, Maharana Verisal, Raja of Rajpeepla, has written and delivered. The illustrious Gaekwar Government and the Honorable British Government having, in the performance of justice, decided the sovereignty of Rajpeepla to be ours, and in their beneficence conferred entirely the honour on us, therefore we bestow upon you and on Purtaub Sing, and others under your protection, a yearly gift, at the rate of seven hundred (700) rupees per month, annual total eight thousand four hundred (8,400) rupees, as follows:—For your private expenses two hundred (200) rupees per month, yearly two thousand four hundred (2,400) rupees, and Wulligaum in the Kuntaul Purgana, and Syaligaum in the Ruttunpoor Purgana; whatever produce is derivable from these towns is yours, and the towns delivered to you, and this monthly allowance and the produce of the towns remain yours for life; and for Purtaub Sing and the rest a monthly allowance of five hundred (500) rupees shall be regularly given, making a yearly total of six thousand (6,000) rupees. At this rate of eight thousand four hundred (8,400) rupees a year, as it has been agreed upon and engaged to you, so shall it be given, and do you continue to go on as you have written to us. In this matter no changes shall occur. This we have written and signed.

(True translation)

(Signed) R. H. KENNEDY, Translator.

Bond entered into by Soorujhoor Bae agreeing to receive the Allowance assigned by the Raja of Rajpeepla to herself and Purtaub Sing for their support, and foregoing all further Claim on that Estate.

To Maharana Verisal, Raja of Rajpeepla, Rane Soorujkoor Bae writes. I am content to receive the yearly allowance and provision made for me and Purtaub Sing and others under my protection, through the mediation of the Gaekwar Government, and by Mr. Williams on behalf of the British Government, and will remain satisfied; nor have I any further claims whatever for myself or for Purtaub Sing on the above mentioned territory, or the Government thereof. Thus have I written and signed.

(True translation)

(Signed) R. H. KENNEDY, Translator.

Agreement alluded to in the 5th to 17th paras. of Mr. Willoughby's letter, finally entered into with the Honorable East India Company by Maharana Verisal, Raja of Rajpeepla, on the 26th November 1823.

Formerly a dispute existed regarding the right to the Gadee of my Chieftainship, on which account the two great Sirkars, of Shreemunt Gaekwar Senakhas Keyl Shumshere Bahadur, and the Honorable Company Ungrez Bahadur, having investigated the same, decided my claim to be just, confirmed it, and delivered over to me the Chieftainship. On this account, I, of my own understanding and free will and pleasure, subscribe to the under-written Articles of Agreement for my good behaviour.

ARTICLE I.

On the abovementioned Chieftainship are debts due to the Gaekwar Sirkar, and to others. I have not means to bear the whole of this burthen, which is known to the Sirkar. But whatever order I shall receive from the Resident at Baroda, on the part of the Honorable the Company, to adopt any plan for the liquidation of the Gaekwar debt, I will agree to, and act in conformity with the same.

Whatever proportion of the resources of the State may be fixed to defray the expenses of the State at any time by the advice of the Resident and an order given upon the subject, in conformity with it I will abide. In this I will make no difference.

ARTICLE II.

A separate bond has been given regarding the annual Ghansdana and Jumbundee to be paid to the Gaekwar Government, according to which I will

pay the sum. If in any year an Asmanee or Sultanee misfortune should really occur, then the Sirkar out of compassion will make a remission in the tribute of that year, according to the custom of the country.

ARTICLE III.

The Company's Sirkar has stationed in the above Chieftainship a detachment of its Sepoys for my protection. For the expense of the same, in whatever manner the Sirkar may direct, I will agree and pay in conformity with the same.

ARTICLE IV.

The Bheels and Mehwisees of the above Talook shall not commit any disturbances in the districts of the Gaekwar to the north and south of the river Nerbudda, nor in the Khaseh districts of the Honorable Company or in their dependencies. I will keep the arrangements with them binding. In the above province from every village Fael Zamin security has been taken for its good behaviour. If any village has been omitted, security shall be taken from it, and a proper settlement be kept. If any disturbance or injury is sustained, and the same should be proved against any of the inhabitants of my province, I will answer for the same or cause an answer to be given for it.

ARTICLE V.

I will not harbour, nor allow any one to harbour in my Talook, disturbers of the public peace, Mehwisees, the criminals of both Governments, and Bharwuttees; I will not nor shall any other person associate with them.

ARTICLE VI.

I will not commit acts of aggression against any one. If any dispute arises between me and any other Talookdar or Zumindar, I will make the same known to the Company's Sirkar, and whatever order it may give respecting it, I will abide by.

ARTICLE VII.

No one shall molest travellers passing and repassing through the limits of my Talook. I will take care that a proper settlement is made on this point.

ARTICLE VIII.

In the above province reside Rajpoots and Geerasias who possess Geeras rights upon the Company's districts in the Zillas of Broach and Surat. Regarding these, papers of agreement were taken from them by Mr. Willoughby, Assistant to the Resident. Whatever final settlement of these may be made, in conformity with the same I will cause them to abide.

ARTICLE IX.

In conformity with the order of the Company's Sirkar, opium shall not be

clandestinely conveyed within the limits of my province by any merchants or travellers, concealed in any other merchandize, without the seal and order of the Sirkar. I will keep a good arrangement in this respect in my Talook. If any opium is clandestinely conveyed, I will seize it, and make the same known to the Sirkar. Whatever order the Sirkar may give relating to the opium arrangements I will abide by.

In conformity with the above written nine Articles I will always act from generation to generation. If in this respect any difference arises, I will answer for the same. My Talook is security for my acting in conformity to what is written above. What is written is true.



(True translation)
(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
First Assistant Resident, on Deputation.

MEMO.—This Agreement was approved by the Government of Bombay on the 20th December 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To THE RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 14th April 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st of this month, forwarding copy of a despatch from your Assistant, on deputation in Rajppeepla, of the 29th ultimo, enclosing an original bond executed by the Raja of that State for the payment of the Gaekwar's tribute, also a bond binding him to make the provision for Soorujkoor and Purtaub Sing.

2. The Governor in Council approves of the proposed draft of an agreement to be entered into with the Raja for the due performance of his engagements.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 14th April 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident, Baroda,
To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 10th December 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit, for the information of Government,

copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, dated the 8th instant, forwarding the bond directed to be taken on the part of the British Government from the Raja of Rajpeepla, duly ratified.

2. The nature of this document has already been fully explained and its translation been laid before Government. The original has been deposited with the Native records of this office.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 10th December 1823.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assist. Resident, on Deputation,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident, Baroda.

Dated 8th December 1823.

SIR,—With reference to the 6th paragraph of your letter dated the 3rd ultimo, I have the honour to transmit the bond therein alluded to, duly ratified by this Government.

2. The bond in question has been subscribed to without the least hesitation. Narsing, the father of the young Raja, on delivering it to me, merely observing that he placed implicit confidence in the British Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

First Assistant Resident, on Deputation.

Camp Nandod, 8th December 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To THE RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 20th December 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant, forwarding one from your Assistant, on deputation in Rajpeepla, together with the bond directed to be taken on the part of the Bombay Government from the Raja of that State, duly ratified, and to acquaint you that Mr. Willoughby's proceedings have been approved by the Governor in Council.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 20th December 1823.

ARRANGEMENT EFFECTED BY MR. J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

IN THE YEAR 1823,

FOR THE LIQUIDATION,

BY INSTALMENTS,

OF THE DEBT DUE BY THE RAJPEEPLA STATE
TO HIS HIGHNESS THE GAEKWAR.

ARRANGEMENTS CONCLUDED FOR THE LIQUIDATION OF THE DEBT DUE BY THE RAJPEEPLA STATE TO THE GAEKWAR.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident, in Charge,
To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 21st June 1823.

SIR,—In the absence of the Resident, it becomes my duty to report, for the information and confirmation of the Honorable the Governor in Council, the arrangement I was enabled to effect during my last deputation to Rajpeepla, regarding the debt due from that petty State to His Highness the Gaekwar up to Sumvut 1877, A. D. 1820-21.

2. This subject having already undergone ample discussion, the result of which has from time to time been laid before Government, it is not necessary for me to take up its time by again entering into the details of the question, but merely to make a few general observations regarding it.

3. It will be in the recollection of Government that the original amount of the debt claimed was no less than Rs. 21,76,246-0-87½, but that before any discussion could scarcely be said to have taken place regarding its justice or otherwise, this amount was reduced by the consent of His Highness the Gaekwar to Rs. 12,56,226-2-25. The amount of remission, therefore, thus agreed to, was Rs. 9,20,019-2-62½, regarding which I shall only observe, that it was obtained with very little demur on the part of this Government, because upwards of 24 per cent. interest, and an unjust item of three lakhs of rupees, were found to be included in the first account produced.

4. In the discussions which afterwards took place between the Residency and the Baroda Durbar, regarding what proportion of the remainder of the debt should be considered either as justly due, or proportionate to the ability of the tributary to pay, a choice of two modes of proceeding occurred. The one, to endeavour to obtain His Highness the Gaekwar's consent to grant such further remission as the evident injustice and extravagance of many of the items of the debt on the one hand, and the ability of the tributary on the other, rendered fair and reasonable. The other, to canvass every item of the

debt in detail, and reject such as might prove to be unjust or extravagant. The former of these two modes was adopted by Mr. Williams, principally from its being the least complex and tedious of the two, and less offensive to the feelings of His Highness the Gaekwar and the members of his administration.

5. This decision having been made, the question was minutely and fully discussed in several conferences which took place at the Residency with Wittul Rao Dewajee, the Gaekwar Minister; but nothing conclusive appearing likely to result from these, Mr. Williams finally acceded to a proposition made by the former, that their substance should be reduced to writing, and laid before His Highness the Gaekwar, accompanied by his opinion regarding the extent of remission to be granted. This was accordingly done, and a memorandum sent to the Durbar, recommending that the sum of eight lakhs of rupees should be considered as much as this Government was entitled to receive, or that the tributary could afford to pay. The grounds on which this second remission, amounting to Rs. 4,56,226-2-25, was recommended, having been previously fully discussed, and for the most part admitted by this Government, the proposition was without further demur consented to, under certain conditions, the nature of which will be observed on reference to the annexed copy and translation of a memorandum sent to the Residency on the subject.

6. The substance of this document may be summed up as follows:—His Highness the Gaekwar agrees to reduce the original amount of the debt to eight lakhs of rupees, upon condition that the tributary pays as large a proportion of this sum as possible in cash immediately, in which case he further consents that the balance remaining shall be paid by annual instalments, without bearing interest; a temporary reduction is also admitted on account of sums claimed by the tributary from the Komavisdars of the Gaekwar Government, stated by the former to have been collected by them, but not carried to the public account.

7. I shall now proceed to report the arrangement I have concluded on the part of the tributary, by which the above terms have been fulfilled to the fullest extent practicable. The amount to be proved against the District Officers of this Government is Rs. 1,40,330-3-31½. It would be premature to give any opinion regarding the truth of the tributary's assertion of its ability to prove the whole of this item to be justly claimed from the above persons, as such can be only ascertained by a minute and tedious comparison of the accounts of both parties. This investigation, I must however add, would have been commenced upon when I was last on the spot, had the Gaekwar Komavisdars paid attention to my request to attend me in person, or appoint deputies on their part to be present to assist in the inquiry. This

item, therefore, must necessarily be considered as temporarily accounted for, and the debt to be reduced to Rs. 6,59,669 0 68½

From this sum is to be deducted the following items :—

Amount paid to the Gaekwar Government from the resources of Rajpeepla of the past year Rs. 1,25,000 0 0

Amount paid in cash on the 13th of April last in liquidation of the balance of the loan raised in 1820 under the guarantee of the British Government.. 2,44,025 3 0

Amount of interest and Government share of Potdaree due to the Raja from the holders of the old loan, calculated up to the 13th of April last, the day on which the latter was entirely discharged..... 36,669 0 81½
4,05,694 3 81½

Balance remaining due to the Gaekwar Government and to be liquidated by annual instalments without interest is Rs. 2,53,974 0 87½

8. Neither the first nor the last of the above deductions require any detailed remarks. The first was last year reported to Government as having been paid; the last arises from the circumstance of the interest of the old loan having been only estimated, and a balance of the amount, estimated as above, saved to the tributary, by the loan being discharged so much earlier than was anticipated.

9. The mode in which I was enabled to realize so large a sum as the second item was, by raising a new loan to the extent of Rs. 2,25,001 from certain Baroda Bankers, under the guarantee of the British Government, and borrowing Rs. 19,024-3-0 from the Rajpeepla Government Potdaree, by which arrangements a reduction of one-fourth of the interest paid by the tributary on the former loan has been obtained; and, moreover, the stipulation in its favour regarding the balance of the debt being paid by annual instalments without interest, is rendered binding on the superior Government from the tributary being able to pay so large a proportion of the debt in cash. For the terms of the agreement entered into by the holders of the new loan and the Raja, I beg leave to refer the Honorable the Governor in Council to the annexed copy and translation of the bond to which they have mutually subscribed, merely observing that they are particularly favourable to the latter, considering the embarrassed state of his finances, and that the instalments to be paid to the bankers are as small in amount as they could be expected to consent to receive.

10. I have not deemed it necessary to wait for the sanction of Government prior to the above arrangement being ratified, the money having been paid to the Gaekwar Government and the guarantee of the British Government having been affixed to the bond on the 13th of April last. I considered no delay on this account necessary, from my confidence that the whole arrangement will be approved by Government, because, 1st, it secures such important benefits to the tributary; 2nd, because it assists the Gaekwar Government in its present pecuniary embarrassments, by furnishing it with so large a sum in ready money which it did not calculate upon receiving; and 3rd and lastly, because the pecuniary responsibility of the British Government is considerably diminished from the terms of the new loan being (as shown above) so much more favourable to the debtor than those of the old.

11. It now only remains for me to make a few observations regarding the probable time in which the tributary will be able to liquidate the balance of the debt it still owes to the superior Government, amounting, as shown at the conclusion of the 7th paragraph of my letter, to Rs. 2,53,974-3-87½. In order to do this in the clearest and most intelligible manner I am able, I have drawn out the annexed statement (No. 3) exhibiting, 1st, the amount to be paid by the farmers of the seven principal districts of Rajppeepla for five years of their farm; 2nd, the estimated amount of the remaining resources of the State for the same period; 3rd, the total of these two items; 4th, the estimated amount of the expenses of the State for ditto, including the Gaekwar tribute; 5th, the balance of revenue remaining after these are paid; 6th, the instalments to be paid to the holders of the new loan; 7th and lastly, the surplus which will remain after these are paid, applicable to the payment of the balances of the Gaekwar debt.

12. The above statement shows at one glance the whole resources of the State, with their appropriation, prospectively for five years; and as enough has been written upon this subject, and the data on which the estimates of the receipts and disbursements have been made are to be found in the records of Government, it is only necessary for me to sum up the results it exhibits, which, considering all things, will, I trust, be deemed most satisfactory.

The total estimated resources are for the ensuing five years	Rs. 11,33,035	0	0
The total estimated expenses including the Gaekwar tribute, for the same period, are	„ 8,35,000	0	0
Surplus balance remaining....	Rs. 2,98,035	0	0
The instalments of the new loan to be paid during the same period amount to	„ 2,59,811	0	0
Balance applicable to the discharge of the remainder of the Gaekwar debt	Rs. 38,224	0	0

13. From the above summary it will be observed, that by the present arrangement concluded in behalf of the Rajpeepla State, and others which have already been reported and sanctioned by Government, the whole of the expenses of the State are provided for, for the next five years; the Gaekwar tribute will be regularly realized in each year; the whole of the new loan which has been raised on account of the Gaekwar Government will be paid off, with the exception of a small balance of interest; and a small surplus will still remain applicable for the further discharge of the Gaekwar debt, and upon as sure and certain grounds as human foresight is able to calculate. The last surplus alluded to, amounts to Rs. 38,224, which however may, though with difficulty, be increased to 50,000 by borrowing the deficiency from the Potdar of the Rajpeepla State, the whole to be paid in five equal instalments of 10,000 Rupees each. These arrangements have been made known to the Baroda Durbar, and I have every reason to believe that it is convinced that in concluding them its interests have been consulted to the fullest extent possible.

14. At the conclusion of the fifth year the financial arrangements of the tributary will, from so great a proportion of its embarrassments being removed, be comparatively easy, provided in the mean time no unforeseen calamity occurs. The revenues of the ensuing year, Sumvut 1885 (1828-29), which is the last of the farm, may be estimated at Rs. 2,71,807

Expenses on the same scale as at present, including the

Gaekwar tribute „, 1,67,000

Surplus balance remaining is Rs. 1,04,807

15. From the surplus balance of the revenue estimated for the sixth year will be discharged whatever remains unpaid of the new loan now raised. The different sums which have already been taken up, and will in the mean time necessarily be taken up from the Rajpeepla Government Potdaree, will have accumulated to a considerable sum, and will require attention, and be in part discharged. It would, therefore, at present be unsafe to mention the precise sum which the Gaekwar Government will receive in addition to its tribute in the sixth year, though from the above large balance of surplus revenue being anticipated, it will no doubt be very considerable, and increase gradually every succeeding year, until the total extinction of the whole debt.

16. In conclusion, I beg leave to apologize for the unavoidable delay which has taken place in reporting these measures (which has arisen partly from the delay of the Gaekwar Government in restoring the bond executed when the loan of 1820 was raised, but which I have since destroyed, and partly from the press of other business at this office), and to express a hope that they will give satisfaction to the Honorable the Governor in Council, as affording the

cheering prospect of all the Gaekwar's rights being preserved, and its tributary restored from the brink of insolvency to a flourishing and prosperous condition, to ensure which desirable result to the interposition of the British Government in the affairs of the latter, it is only necessary that a constant and vigilant attention be paid from this Residency, that subsisting engagements be most strictly and scrupulously abided by, and in particular that the present scale of expenses fixed for the Rajpeepla Government be not in the smallest degree exceeded.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
First Assistant Resident, in Charge.

Baroda Residency, 21st June 1823.

No. 1.

Translation of a Memorandum received from the Gaekwar Government, respecting the Debt due to it from Rajpeepla, dated the 1st of Jumna-dee-ul-Akhur, or 13th February 1823.

Upon the subject of the money due to the Sirkar from the Raja of Rajpeepla up to the end of Sumvut 1877 (A. D. 1820-21), a conference has taken place personally, and a memorandum has been given enumerating different items which ought to be deducted from the same, either on account of the distressed condition of the tributary, or on the score of justice, as follows:—

The total claim of the Sirkar amounts to	Rs. 12,76,226	2 25
From which is to be deducted on the above two accounts ..	4,56,226	2 25

Balance remaining is	Rs. 8,00,000	0 0
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From this amount is to be proved against the Komavisdars, from the difference existing in the amounts they have exhibited and their collections for the last six years, the sum of	Rs. 1,40,331	3 31½
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Balance remaining is	Rs. 6,59,669	0 68½
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Of this sum whatever proportion can be paid in ready money, will be so, upon which subject Mr. Willoughby is to communicate with the Raja. The balance remaining, to be paid by fixed instalments without bearing interest.

To the above purport a memorandum was received from the Residency, dated the 11th of Mag Wud (6th February), pointing out the mode for settling the money due to the Sirkar. In reply it is stated, that the settlement which has been proposed by the Resident, of the debt due from Rajpeepla, is approved

of by the Sirkar. The item of Rs. 1,40,331-3-31 $\frac{1}{4}$, stated to be the difference claimed against the Komavisdars, must be investigated and settled as soon as possible; when the payment (of part of the remainder) has been made, the balance remaining, it is wished, should be adjusted as soon as possible.

(True translation)

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
First Assistant Resident, in Charge.

No. 2.

Translation of a Bond entered into between Maharana Verisaljee, Raja of Rajpcepla, and Annuntye Lulloobhoye Paruk and Kooshallall Duneslaver, inhabitants of Baroda, dated the 2nd of Chytr Sood, Samvat 1879, or the 13th April 1823.

I have taken from you a loan, in order to make a settlement of the money which is due from my Chieftainship to the Gaekwar Government, the particulars of which are as follow :—

The net sum borrowed is two lakhs twenty-five thousand

and one Rs. 2,25,001

Manootee and Seerpao, are as follows :—

Manootee one rupee per cent. in the first month is .. Rs. 2,250

Seerpao do. do. „ 500
— — — — — 2,750

Total..Rs. 2,27,751

The above sum of rupees two lakhs twenty-seven thousand seven hundred and fifty-one has been borrowed from you in full, for which the interest to be given has been settled to be 12 annas per cent. per mensem, without any deduction. This will be paid to you, and until the money has been repaid the interest account will be made up every year on the 2nd of Margseer Sood. The interest accumulating every year will be deducted from the five annual instalments which have been fixed, and the remainder will be paid to you in part payment of the principal. The balance, if any remains, will be stated in a memorandum to be given to you year by year.

The instalments to be paid are as follows :—

In Samvat 1880 on the 2nd Margseer Sood	..	..	Rs.	21,001
Do. 1881 on do. do.	..	..	„	34,001
Do. 1882 on do. do.	..	..	„	55,001
Do. 1883 on do. do.	..	..	„	65,001
Do. 1884 on do. do.	..	..	„	85,001

Total..Rs. 2,60,005

In the above manner, by instalments I will pay to you altogether in five years the sum of two lakhs sixty thousand and five rupees. In the 5th year whatever balance of the principal and interest may remain I will pay to you. If we both agree together I will make a new loan with you, and give you credit for the balance in question. If we do not agree I will get money elsewhere and pay to you whatever balance of the principal and interest may remain due to you. For the fulfilment of this engagement the guarantee of the Honorable Company's Government is given to you.

(True translation)

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
First Assistant Resident, in Charge.

No. 3.

Statement exhibiting the Amount of Revenue to be paid by the Farmers of the Seven principal Districts of Rajppeepla for Five years, viz. from Sumvut 1880 (A. D. 1823-24) to Sumvut 1884 (A. D. 1827-28) ; the Estimated Amount of its remaining Resources for the same period ; the Total Amount of the former added to the latter ; the total Estimated Expenses of the State during the same period, including the Gaekwar Tribute ; the Balance which will remain after the latter has been paid ; the Instalments which have been fixed to be paid of the newly raised Loan during the same period ; and the Surplus which will remain applicable to paying the remainder of the Gaekwar Debt.

	Amount of the Lease of the Seven principal Districts for each year.	Estimated Amount of the remaining Resources of the State each year.	Total Estimated Revenue of the State for each year.	Total Estimated Expense of the State for each year, including the Gaekwar Tribute of Rs. 65,000 per annum.	Balance of Revenue for each year, after deduct- ing the latter.	Instalment fixed to be paid of the new Loan rais- ed, year by year.	Surplus which will remain applicable to paying the remainder of the Gaekwar Debt each year.	Explanation.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
Sumvut 1880	1,42,807	45,000	1,87,807	1,67,000	20,807	20,807*	.....	* For this year there is a deficit of Rs. 194 in the Kist agreed to be paid to the bankers, which is however of small consequence, and can either be paid from the Government Potdar or the next year's revenue.
Do. 1881	1,64,807	45,000	2,09,807	1,67,000	42,807	34,001	8,806	
Do. 1882	1,84,807	45,000	2,29,807	1,67,000	62,807	55,001	7,806	
Do. 1883	2,00,807	45,000	2,45,807	1,67,000	78,807	65,001	13,806	
Do. 1884	2,14,807	45,000	2,50,807	1,67,000	92,807	85,001	7,806	
Total ..	9,08,035	2,25,000	11,33,035	8,35,000	2,98,035	2,59,811	38,224	

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
First Assistant Resident, in Charge.

Baroda Residency, 21st June 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

*From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant in Charge, Baroda.*

Dated 9th July 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 21st of last month, reporting your having effected an arrangement, during your last deputation to Rajppeepla, for the liquidation of the debt due from that State to His Highness the Gaekwar, and to express the satisfaction of the Governor in Council at its conclusion.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 9th July 1823.

REPORT BY MR. J. P. WILLOUGHBY

ON THE

FINANCIAL CONDITION AND PROSPECTS OF THE
RAJPEEPLA STATE,

DURING THE YEARS 1825-26 AND 1827-28 ;

AND

THE FINAL ADJUSTMENT, BY THAT GENTLEMAN, OF EVERY
PECUNIARY DEMAND PREFERRED BY HIS HIGHNESS
THE GAEKWAR ON THAT PETTY PRINCIPALITY.

FINANCIAL CONDITION AND PROSPECTS OF THE RAJPEEPLA STATE IN 1825-26 AND 1826-27, AND FINAL ADJUSTMENT OF ALL THE GAEKWAR'S DEMANDS ON THAT PRINCIPALITY.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 7th April 1827.

SIR,—I have considerable pleasure in handing up, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, Mr. Willoughby's annual report upon the finances of the Rajpeepla State, exhibiting a most satisfactory detail of the general improvement in the condition of this tributary, and bearing at the same time abundant testimony to the zeal and ability of the Political Agent, under whose superintendence and to whose judicious advice this very favourable aspect of its affairs is justly attributable.

2. The report is accompanied by the usual explanatory statement of the revenues, charges, and liquidation of debts: it is brief and perspicuous, and I beg leave to refer the Honorable Board thereto for the details, and to the text of the despatch for the results; and I doubt not of their affording satisfaction.

3. In regard to the efficiency of the arrangements adopted at the suggestion of the Agent for the management of this country, no stronger proof need be adduced than the total absence of all complaint from either the British or Gaekwar Governments, whose territories border Rajpeepla, when formerly they were so numerous.

4. Another satisfactory feature in this report is the complete settlement of every claim of the Gaekwar against Rajpeepla. This has been effected by the Agent on the part of the latter, in communication with the Minister, Wittul Rao Dewajee, and, in my opinion, both parties have good reason to be pleased with the result—the Gaekwar in having obtained what in other circumstances he could not have realized, for the tributary never would have been in a condition to have paid anything had he remained on his former footing in relation to the Gaekwar; and the Rajpeepla State has been relieved from the annoyance of having vexatious and undefined claims brought forward. The settlement of the claim for Rs. 1,40,000 was particularly necessary, and the Gaekwar may be considered a gainer in acquiring a moiety of it, as, had it gone to investigation, it would have been difficult for him to prove his claims to even that amount, considering the lapse of time and the

management in the country resting with the Raja. The 9th and consecutive paragraphs of Mr. Willoughby's despatch afford the fullest information upon the subject, and I fully agree with him, that it was better to give up a moiety of the claim, rather than unsettle the minds of the people on a chance of diminishing the demand by investigation. The Gaekwar Government has granted to the Rajpeela State the same Purwana as those to the Kattywar and Mahee Kanta tributaries, guaranteed by the British Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 7th April 1827.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Political Agent in Rajpeela, &c.

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 3rd April 1827.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit, for your information, my annual report of the actual revenues and charges of the Rajpeela State for Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26), with an estimate of the same for the current year Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1826-27).

2. Statement No. 1 contains a comparison of the estimated with the actual revenues and charges of the State for Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26), briefly accounting for the variations which are apparent between the two. Its results are shown by the abstract to be as follows:—

Estimated amount of revenues was	..	..	Rs.	2,34,969	0	25
Actual amount realized was	..	..	..	„	2,43,365	0 68½
Excess above the estimate was	..	..	..	Rs.	8,396	0 43½
Estimated amount of charges was	..	..	..	Rs.	2,60,119	1 50
Actual amount of charges was	..	..	..	„	2,62,021	3 50
Excess above the estimate was	..	..	..	Rs.	1,902	2 0

3. Contrasting the actual amount of revenues realized with the actual charges of the State during the above period, the following results are obtained:—

Actual amount of charges was	..	..	..	Rs.	2,62,021	3 50
Actual amount of revenues was	..	..	..	„	2,43,365	0 68½
Excess in the former was	..	..	..	Rs.	18,656	2 82½

The latter sum is the balance due at the end of the year of report to the Government Potdaree or bank, for which the usual note of acknowledgment has been granted to the bankers.

4. On comparing the amount of revenues realized in Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26) with those of the year preceding, the following great and satisfactory improvement in the resources of the State is shown to have occurred:—

Amount of revenues realized in 1882 (A. D. 1825-26) was Rs. 2,43,365 0 68½

Amount of revenues realized in 1881 (A. D. 1824-25) was „ 1,99,865 0 37½

Increase in the former amount is Rs. 43,500 0 31½

5. The improvement in the condition of Rajpeepla is still further exemplified by a diminution of the balance due to the Government Potdaree at the end of 1882 (A. D. 1825-26) compared with its amount at the end of the preceding year:—

The balance due at the end of 1881 (A. D. 1824-25) was Rs. 31,457 1 50

The balance due at the end of 1882 (A. D. 1825-26) was „ 18,656 2 82½

Diminution in the latter period is Rs. 12,800 2 67½

6. For further details I beg to refer you to the Statement from which the above results are given. In the charges are included all the expenses of the local Government, the full amount of the tribute due to His Highness the Gaekwar, the third instalment of the Rajpeepla loan raised under the guarantee of the British Government, an instalment of the non-interest debt due to the Gaekwar Government, and the balance due to the Government Potdaree or bank at the closing of the public accounts for Sumvut 1881 (A. D. 1824-25).

7. I now beg leave to request your attention to Statement No. 2, exhibiting the estimate of the expected revenues and charges of Rajpeepla for the current year, Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1826-27). This shows that the

Anticipated revenues of 1883 (A. D. 1826-27) are.... Rs. 2,54,891 0 25

Anticipated charges of 1883 (A. D. 1826-27) are.... „ 2,62,318 2 82½

Excess of charges is.....Rs. 7,427 2 57½

8. I feel convinced that any observations on my part, respecting the improving condition of Rajpeepla, will be totally unnecessary; the above results carry conviction with them, and prove that the disinterested labours of the British Government for the welfare of this petty State have not proved abortive, but have already been crowned with success to a most gratifying extent. For the satisfaction of Government, however, I beg to report that having lately visited several of the Rajpeepla districts, and ascertained by personal observation and inquiry the visible improvement which has taken place in the aspect of the country, I can bear testimony that it is managed as mildly and efficiently as can be expected, when much is very wisely left to depend upon the exertions and power of the local Government. It is but justice to the latter to add, that its comparative efficiency is sufficiently proved by the continued cessation of all complaint from the British and Gaekwar authorities whose jurisdictions border on Rajpeepla.

9. I embrace this opportunity of reporting that in pursuance of your request, I have, in personal communication with Wittul Rao Dewajee, the Gaekwar Minister, and the Rajpeepla Government, finally adjusted every demand possessed by His Highness the Gaekwar on Rajpeepla, and that instalments, concurred

in by both parties, have been fixed for the liquidation of the full amount now due, the same to be paid through the British Government. The original bond obtained from the Raja is herewith enclosed, with a translation (No. 3), from which it will be perceived that the total demands of the Gaekwar up to the end of Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26) amount to Rs. 3,23,975-0-87½, and that by the present engagement the whole is to be discharged by certain instalments therein specified, in eight years, commencing from the present year, Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1826-27), and terminating in Sumvut 1890 (A. D. 1833-34). The usual provision contained in this bond, that the instalment is not to be expected by the Gaekwar in any year of calamity, removes all direct pecuniary responsibility from the British Government in its character of guarantee to the arrangement. With respect to the amount of the instalments, barring of course the occurrence of calamities of the nature referred to, my experience in the affairs of Rajppeepla enables me with confidence to predict that the resources of the State in each year will not only be sufficient to meet them, but moreover that a surplus will generally remain applicable to diminish a part of its other pecuniary embarrassments, to effect which, plans will hereafter be proposed. I make this assertion for the satisfaction of Government, at the risk of falling into an error I have hitherto escaped, of being too sanguine in the success of prospective arrangements.

10. It now only remains for me to offer a few observations upon the amount of the demand of the Gaekwar above stated. To elucidate this point Statement No. 4 has been appended, which, with a slight reference to my report to Government on the Rajppeepla debt, dated the 19th of June 1823, will convey all the information requisite to form an opinion as to its justice, as well as on the expediency of the whole arrangements.

11. From Statement No. 4 it will be perceived that the total amount of Gaekwar demands against Rajppeepla, debt and tribute inclusive, from the time the State came under its management, up to Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26), the settlement of which was vested in the British Government on the State being restored to the Raja, was Rs. 11,53,178 3 25

Of this Rs. 1,17,990-1-81½ were on investigation proved inadmissible, and Rs. 55,834-2-0 remitted to the tributary on account of calamity. Deduct therefore

the amount of these two items, or „ 1,73,824 3 81½

And there remains a balance due of..... Rs. 9,79,353 3 43½

Of this balance, has been paid in cash during the period

Rajppeepla has been placed under my superintendence, or in six years

„ 6,55,378 2 56½

Total balance of unliquidated demands at the close of

1882, and for the payment of which instalments

are now fixed, is therefore Rs. 3,23,975 0 87½

The column of remarks in this statement explains the nature of each claim, the reasons of the deductions made from the original amount of each claim, and the time and mode of liquidating that portion of each exhibited in the column of adjusted claims. It is, however, necessary to allude to the second item, or Rs. 1,40,331-3-31½, which, on reference to my report of the 19th June 1823, will be found to be a claim on the part of the Gaekwar, disputed by the Raja, on the grounds that an examination into the collections made and expenses incurred by the former, whilst the administration of Rajpeepla was conducted by the Gaekwar State, would prove it to be unjust.

12. Although the Gaekwar Government was frequently requested to depute officers with me for the purpose of investigating this claim, the request was invariably evaded; and the inquiry latterly was rendered the more difficult for the Gaekwar Government, and its chances of being able to establish any considerable portion of the amount contested were greatly diminished by the death of Bucha Jumadar, the officer who held Rajpeepla previous to the Raja's restoration. After some discussion, therefore, Wittul Rao Dewajee, the Gaekwar Minister, proposed that I should recommend the Raja to agree to a compromise, to which he finally consented, the result being that Rs. 70,330-3-31½ is remitted to the tributary, and the balance, Rs. 70,000, added to the non-interest debt due from it to the Gaekwar Government.

13. This mode of adjustment was gladly consented to by the Raja. The principal reason why I was induced to recommend it for his acceptance, was not an idea that he would have been a loser by the inquiry which must have otherwise been instituted, but to obviate the inconvenience and evils which such would have produced in bringing the Gaekwar Government and the tributary into collision; and in particular in impeding the improvement of Rajpeepla by unsettling the minds of its population, who would doubtless have viewed the inquiry (however erroneously) as leading to fresh demands being made upon them on account of old balances of revenue.

14. In conclusion I have much pleasure in stating that both parties have expressed themselves perfectly satisfied with the whole of the arrangements now reported; and all the demands of the Gaekwar Government on Rajpeepla being now defined and put in a train of liquidation, a Purwana has been granted to the tributary by His Highness the Gaekwar (similar to those granted to the Kattywar and Mahce Kanta States), guaranteed by the British Government, in which all the engagements entered into by both parties through my mediation are recapitulated and ratified.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

*Rajpeepla and Powagur Punchmahals,
Political Agent's Office, 3rd April 1827.*

STATEMENT

Statement exhibiting a Comparison of the Estimated and Actual Revenues
Explanatory

No.	REVENUES.	Estimated Amount in 1825-26.	Actual Amount in 1825-26.	Surplus in the Actual Receipts.	Deficiency in the Actual Re- ceipts.	Remarks.
		Rs. q. r.	Rs. q. r.	Rs. q. r.	Rs. q. r.	
1	Revenue from the seven lower Purgunas in farm.....	1,84,807 0 0	1,84,807 0 0	....	
2	Ditto from the three lower Purgunas not in farm.	5,703 0 0	5,965 0 37½	262 0 37½	..	The amount of re- venue of these dis- tricts depends parti- ly on contingencies.
3	Ditto from the Hill ditto.	5,402 0 0	5,402 0 0	....	
4	Ditto from the Khangee land	3,501 0 0	3,501 0 0	....	
5	Ditto from the Seeran ditto	1,401 0 0	1,401 0 0	....	
6	Ditto from the village of Kurnalee.....	301 0 0	301 0 0	....	
7	Ditto from the Corne- lian mines	4,300 0 0	5,204 0 0	904 0 0	..	Excess arose from the Government partly working the mines on its own account.
8	Ditto from the Nakas, or customs	6,105 0 0	6,578 2 0	473 2 0	..	
9	Ditto from the Rutton- poor firewood	375 0 0	375 0 0	....		Always liable to fluctuation in a- mount.
10	Ditto Tora Geeras rights from the Company's districts	12,375 0 25	12,375 0 25	....	
11	Ditto from the Gack- war ditto	1,570 0 0	1,570 0 0	....	
12	Watow, or Exchange ..	4,001 0 0	6,851 3 25	2,850 3 95	..	The exchange be- tween Naudod and Broach being high- er than usual, ac- counts for the ex- cess in favour of Government.
13	Roze Mohsullee	151 0 0	280 3 37½	129 3 37½		
14	Dund Furroee, or fines.	1,001 0 0	2,694 1 68½	1,693 1 68½	..	Always liable to fluctuation, and therefore the esti- mate endeavoured to be framed is below rather than above the mark.
15	Potdaree, Government share of	3,001 0 0	3,206 2 0	205 2 0	..	
16	Kullal Buttee, or li- censes to spirit vend- ers	175 0 0	548 2 0	373 2 0	..	
17	Revenue expected from villages recovered from the Mehwasces.	200 0 0	89 2 0	....	110 2 0	This balance will be probably recovered in the ensuing year.
18	Sivasee Juma	600 0 0	2,213 3 75	1,613 3 75	..	
	Total..	2,34,969 0 25	2,43,365 0 68½	8,506 2 43½	110 2 0	This item can never be estimated with complete accuracy.

Abstract.

Total Estimated Resources were	..	..	..	Rs. 2,34,969 0 25
Ditto Actual ditto ditto	..	..	..	„ 2,43,365 0 68½
Surplus of ditto above the Estimate is	..	..	..	Rs. 8,306 0 43½

Rajpepla and Powagur Punchmahals,
Political Agent's Office, 3rd April 1827.

No. 1.

and Charges of the Rajppeepla State for Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26), with Remarks.

No.	CHARGES.	Estimated Amount in 1825-26.	Actual Amount in 1825-26.	Surplus in the Actual Charges.	Deficiency in the Actual Charges.	Remarks.
		Rs. q. r.	Rs. q. r.	Rs. q. r.	Rs. q. r.	
1	Private expenses of the Raja	15,000 0 0	15,000 0 0	.....	....
2	Ditto ditto of Narsing ..	12,000 0 0	12,000 0 0	.....	....
3	Allowances to the Karbarees and Officers of the Government	8,200 0 0	8,200 0 0	.....	....
4	100 Aswars at Rs. 20 each per mensem	24,000 0 0	24,000 0 0	.....	....
5	285 Pecadas of all descriptions	23,760 0 0	23,760 0 0	.....	....
6	Allowance granted to the Bheel Chief Kooer	1,500 0 0	1,500 0 0	.....	....
7	Ditto ditto to the Karkoon stationed at Nandod ..	2,400 0 0	2,400 0 0	.....	....
8	Ditto ditto to the Government Potdar	1,800 0 0	1,800 0 0	.....	....
9	Sader Kurch, or contingencies	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	.....	....
10	Tribute due to the Gaekwar Government	65,001 0 0	65,001 0 0	.....	....
11	3rd Kist due to the holders of the Rajppeepla loan under the guarantee of the British Government	55,001 0 0	55,001 0 0	.....	....
12	Instalment of non-interest debt, of the Gaekwar Government, of last year	10,000 0 0	10,000 0 0	.....	....
13	Balance due to the Government Potdaree at the close of Sumvut 1881 (A. D. 1824-25)	31,457 0 50	31,457 1 50	.....	....
14	Advance to the Government to build a palace for the Raja	5,000 0 0	5,000 0 0	.....	....
15	Interest, &c. &c. due to the Government Potdaree ....	....	1,902 2 0	1,902 2 0	....	This item was accidentally omitted in the Estimate.
	Total ..	2,60,119 1 50	2,62,021 3 50	1,902 2 0	....

Abstract.

Total Actual Charges were Rs. 2,62,021 3 50

Ditto ditto Receipts were „ 2,43,365 0 68½

Excess of the former is.. Rs. 18,656 2 82½*Abstract.*

Estimated Amount of Charges was Rs. 2,60,119 1 50

Actual Amount of ditto was „ 2,62,021 3 50

Excess above the Estimate was Rs. 1,902 2 0

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Political Agent.

STATEMENT

Statement exhibiting the Estimated Revenues and Charges

No.	REVENUES.	Estimated Amount in 1826-27.			Remarks.
		Rs.	q.	r.	
1	Revenue to be received from the seven lower Purgunas in farm	2,00,807	0	0	This amount is fixed.
2	Ditto expected from the three lower Purgunas not in farm	6,000	0	0	Estimated.
3	Ditto ditto from the Highland ditto . . .	5,602	0	0	Ditto.
4	Ditto from the Khangee Zeirayet land. .	3,701	0	0	Fixed.
5	Ditto from the Seeran ditto	1,451	0	0	Ditto.
6	Ditto from the village of Kurnalee . . .	351	0	0	Ditto.
7	Ditto from the Cornelian mines	5,001	0	0	Estimated.
8	Ditto from the Nakas, or customs	6,800	0	0	Ditto.
9	Ditto from the Ruttunpoor firewood . .	401	0	0	Ditto.
10	Ditto Tora Geeras rights from the Company's districts	12,375	0	25	Fixed.
11	Ditto ditto from the Gackwar ditto . .	1,570	0	0	Ditto.
12	Watow, or exchange	5,001	0	0	Estimated.
13	Roze Mohsullee	251	0	0	Ditto.
14	Dund Furroee, or fines	1,301	0	0	Ditto.
15	Potdaree, Government share of	3,001	0	0	Ditto.
16	Kullal Buttee, or licenses	401	0	0	Ditto.
17	Revenue expected from villages recovered from the Mehasees	250	0	0	Ditto.
18	Sivace Juma	627	0	0	Ditto.
	Total . .	2,54,891	0	25	

Abstract.

Total Estimated Receipts are Rs. 2,54,891 0 25

Ditto ditto Disbursements are. „ 2,62,318 2 82 $\frac{3}{4}$

Excess of the latter is. Rs. 7,427 2 57 $\frac{1}{4}$

*Rajporela and Powagur Punchmahals,
Political Agent's Office, 3rd April 1827.*

No. 2.

of the Rajpepla State for Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1826-27).

No.	CHARGES.	Estimated Amount in 1826-27.			Remarks.
		Rs.	q.	r.	
1	Private expenses of the Raja	15,000	0	0	In conformity with the Government Nem- nook.
2	Ditto ditto of Narsing	12,000	0	0	
3	Allowances to the Karbarees and other officers of Government	8,200	0	0	
4	100 Aswars at Rs. 20 each	24,000	0	0	
5	285 Peedas of all descriptions	23,750	0	0	
6	Allowance granted to the Bheel Chief Kooer	1,500	0	0	
7	Ditto to the Karkoon stationed at Nandod	2,400	0	0	
8	Ditto to the Government Potdaree	1,800	0	0	
9	Sader Kurch, or contingencies	5,000	0	0	
10	Tribute due to the Gaekwar Government.	65,001	0	0	
11	4th Kist due to the holders of the Raj- pepla loan under the guarantee of the British Government. }	65,001	0	0	Vide my letter to Government, dated 19th June 1823, re- porting the raising of this loan.
12	Instalment of Gaekwar's non-interest debt	10,000	0	0	Ditto ditto ditto.
13	Balance due to the Government Potdaree at the close of Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26). }	18,656	2	82½	Vide the 3rd para. of my present report.
14	Advance to the Government to build a palace for the Raja	5,000	0	0	Vide my letter to the Resident at Baroda, dated 29th ultimo, reporting the reasons of these extra ad- vances being made to the Government.
15	Ditto to defray the expenses of the Sutmasa ceremony performed in the seventh month of the pregnancy of the Raja's wife.	4,000	0	0	
16	Interest, &c. &c. due to the Government Potdaree	1,000	0	0	
Total.		2,62,318	2	82½	

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

Agreement entered into with His Highness Syajee Rao Gaekwar, by Maharana Verisal, Raja of Rajpeela, dated the 3rd of Margseer Wud, Sumvut 1883, (corresponding with the 17th December 1826).

During the period my State continued under the management of the Gaekwar Government, from Sumvut 1871 (A. D. 1814-15) to Sumvut 1877 (A. D. 1820-21), a balance of debt remained due, the amount of which at the close of Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26) has been fixed as follows, by the mediation of John Pollard Willoughby, Esquire, Political Agent.

Amount of debt not bearing interest is..Rs. 2,53,975 0 87½
 An item amounting to Rs. 1,40,330-3-31,
 claimed by the Gaekwar Government, was
 disputed by me, on the grounds that an
 investigation into the amount of the col-
 lections made by it from my State during
 the period it remained under its manage-
 ment would prove the same not to be
 due. It is now agreed that of this claim,
 Rs. 70,330-3-31 is to be remitted, and
 the remainder credited to the account of
 the Gaekwar ,, 70,000 0 0

Raja's
Seal.

Total amount of non-interest debt due to
 the Gaekwar Government at the end of
 Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26) is there-
 foreRs. 3,23,975 0 87½

It is now arranged that the above amount of debt is to be liquidated by the following annual instalments :—

Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1826-27)	Rupees	10,000	0	0
Sumvut 1884 (A. D. 1827-28)	Rupees	10,000	0	0
Sumvut 1885 (A. D. 1828-29)	Rupees	30,000	0	0
Sumvut 1886 (A. D. 1829-30)	Rupees	50,000	0	0
Sumvut 1887 (A. D. 1830-31)	Rupees	65,000	0	0
Sumvut 1888 (A. D. 1831-32)	Rupees	70,000	0	0
Sumvut 1889 (A. D. 1832-33)	Rupees	78,000	0	0
Sumvut 1890 (A. D. 1833-34)	Rupees	10,975	0	87½

Total....Rupees 3,23,975 0 87½

I will discharge the above instalments on the 2nd of Jest Sood in each year, through the Government of the Honorable Company. In case, however, any unforeseen calamity, usually designated under the term Sultanee Asmanee, befalls my State in the above period, the Government will not press the payment of the instalment due in the year such misfortune may happen. This writing is true.

Seal

of MOORLITTUL SHUD.

(True translation)

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

STATEMENT No. 4.

Statement exhibiting the Total Demands of the Gaekwar Government upon the Rajppeepla State (the Annual Tribute inclusive) up to the end of Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26); the Amount of the same liquidated or otherwise accounted for; the Balance still due; and the Instalments now fixed for its complete liquidation in eight years, commencing from Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1826-27) and terminating with Sumvut 1890 (A. D. 1833-34); with Explanatory Remarks.

Nos.	Claims.	Amount of each Claim.		Deduction from each Claim on the score of justice.		Reimbursement from each Claim made by the Gaekwar Government on account of Calamity.		Amount liquidated up to the end of 1882 (A. D. 1825-26).		Balance of each Claim remaining unliquidated at the end of 1882 (A. D. 1825-26).		Remarks.
		Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.	
1	Balance of debt due up to Sumvut 1877 (A. D. 1820-21)	6,50,000	0 68	30,000	0 81	.....	.....	3,80,024	3 0	2,33,975	0 87	For particulars of this claim, refer to my Report to Government dated the 18th June 1833. The deduction was a balance of the interest due to Rajppeepla on paying off the loan therein referred to, the interest of which was only estimated. The amount liquidated was effected as follows: Rs. 1,25,000 paid from the revenues of the State for Sumvut 1878; Rs. 2,25,001 a loan raised in Sumvut 1879 (A. D. 1822-23); Rs. 19,023-3-0 paid in the same year from the Government Podlaare; Rs. 10,000 paid in Sumvut 1881 (A. D. 1824-25); and Rs. 10,000 in Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26).
2	Amount of claim which remained unadjusted when item the first was fixed.....	1,40,330	3 31	70,330	3 31	.....	.....	.....	.....	70,000	0 0	For the nature of this claim, refer to the same Report and to the 12th and 13th paragraphs of my present letter.
3	Amount of Hiseh Ruined balance claimed by the Gaekwar's Manager of Rajppeepla when the Province was made over to the Raja.)	23,173	3 25	10,900	1 68	.....	.....	17,183	1 50	.....	.....	Is the total amount of the claim preferred by the Gaekwar local officers when Rajppeepla was restored to the Raja, for expenses alleged to have been incurred by them in Sumvut 1878 (A. D. 1821-22). The deduction is the amount proved by the Raja to be unjustly claimed. The balance was paid in Sumvut 1880 (A. D. 1823-24).
4	Amount of tribute due to His Highness the Gaekwar for Sumvut 1878 (A. D. 1821-22).	65,001	0 0	.. ..	.. ..	.....	.....	45,000	0 0	20,000	0 0	In consequence of the impoverished condition of the resources of Rajppeepla for this year, and a previous payment from their amount of Rs. 1,25,000 (vide Note 2), the tributary was unable to discharge the full amount due. The Gaekwar Government therefore consented that the balance unpaid should be added to the amount of non-interest debts.

5. Amount of do. for 1879 (A. D. 1822-23).....	65,001	0	0	.....	45,001	0	0	20,000	0	0	.....
6. Amount of do. for 1880 (A. D. 1823-24).....	65,001	0	0	.....	.....	.....	65,001	0	0	.....	.....
7. Amount of do. for 1881 (A. D. 1824-25).....	65,001	0	0	.....	10,833	2	0	54,167	2	0	.....
8. Amount of do. for 1882 (A. D. 1825-26).....	65,001	0	0	.....	.....	.....	65,001	0	0	.....	.....
Total...	11,53,178	3	25	1,17,900	1	81½	55,834	2	0	6,55,378	2	56½
											3,23,975	0 87½

{ The remission was granted by the Gackwar Government in consequence of the heavy calamity the tributary sustained owing to an inundation of the river Nerbudda.

{ The remission of one-sixth of the tribute was granted to the tributary in consequence of the damage sustained by a severe drought.

Instalments by which this Balance is to be liquidated.

Rupees ..	Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1826-27)	Sumvut 1884 (A. D. 1827-28)	Sumvut 1885 (A. D. 1828-29)	Sumvut 1886 (A. D. 1829-30)	Sumvut 1887 (A. D. 1830-31)	Sumvut 1888 (A. D. 1831-32)	Sumvut 1889 (A. D. 1832-33)	Sumvut 1890 (A. D. 1833-34)	Total.
	10,000 0 0	10,000 0 0	30,000 0 0	50,000 0 0	65,000 0 0	70,000 0 0	78,000 0 0	10,975 0 87½	3,23,975 0 87½

Rajpeerla and Powagkur Punchmahals,
Political Agent's Office, 3rd April 1827.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
 Political Agent.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 7th instant, forwarding copy of Mr. Willoughby's annual report upon the finances of the Rajpeepla State for Sumvut 1882 (A. D. 1825-26), with an estimate of the same for the current year, and to acquaint you that the result of this report is highly satisfactory, and reflects the greatest credit on Mr. Willoughby.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 24th April 1827.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,
To C. NORRIS, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 10th November 1829.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit copy of report, with enclosures, by Mr. Willoughby, on the revenues and charges of the petty State of Rajpeepla for Sumvut 1884 (A. D. 1827-28), contrasted with the statements for the preceding year.

2. The report, exhibiting the usual satisfactory result, will not admit of abridgement, and I am unwilling to detain the attention of Government from its interesting details, which point out, in the simplest but clearest manner, the important advantages gained by prudent arrangements and judicious supervision, in the settlement and management of the Rajpeepla State, during the period it has formed part of the field of Mr. Willoughby's useful and meritorious labours, and where his services first attracted the attention of Government.

3. After first observing that of the term included in Mr. Willoughby's septennial settlement, two years consecutively were years of famine from drought, and one year of serious and almost irreparable injury to a very valuable district on the banks of the Nerbudda from an unprecedented inundation of that river, by which unusual succession of calamities three years out of seven are shown to be years of public distress, I proceed to draw the attention of Government to a brief abstract of the annual reports respecting

Rajpeepla, showing its progressive improvement, and finally the accomplishment of every expectation formed on the commencement of this septennial settlement—a document which requires no observation, but speaks for itself in illustration of the important benefits received by the Rajpeepla State from the protection and friendship of the British Government.

4. In conclusion, I would respectfully observe, that I think it will be a subject of congratulation to Government, that the septennial settlement of the Rajpeepla State should have been so eminently successful in every result anticipated from it, as it will be the best proof (should any be needed) to the Native community at large throughout all Guzerat, of the purity and disinterestedness of the views entertained by Government in sanctioning a similar arrangement for the relief of the Gaekwar State from its embarrassments, and which would no doubt have been still more strikingly successful in restoring the respectability and independence of this State, had not the wise measures of Government been frustrated by an infatuated policy here, with which the moderation of Government found it impracticable to proceed in the course which promised such important advantages.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 10th November 1829.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Political Agent in Rajpeepla, &c.

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 27th October 1829.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit, for the information of Government, a statement exhibiting the actual revenues and charges of the Rajpeepla State for Sumvut 1884 (A. D. 1827-28), contrasted with the estimate furnished in my last report upon the finances of this petty State, dated the 30th of July 1828.

2. The following are the results shown by this document :—

Estimated amount of revenue was	Rs. 2,70,158	0	25
Actual ditto ditto	„ 2,71,364	2	12½
Excess above the estimate was	Rs. 1,206	1	87½
Estimated amount of charges was	Rs. 2,62,708	1	68½
Actual ditto ditto	„ 2,65,513	0	93½
Excess above the estimate was	Rs. 2,804	3	25

3. By comparing the actual revenues and charges of the year of report, you will be gratified to observe that the former exceeded the latter by the sum of Rs. 5,851-1-18 $\frac{3}{4}$, viz :—

Actual receipts were	Rs. 2,71,364	2	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Actual charges were	„ 2,65,513	0	93 $\frac{1}{4}$
Surplus revenue as above.....	Rs. 5,851	1	18 $\frac{3}{4}$

4. Having left my report of the Rajpeepla finances for Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1826-27) at Baroda, I am unable to draw the usual comparison of the finances of 1884 (A. D. 1827-28) with those of the year preceding. I regret this, since a comparison of this nature would show a very marked improvement in the condition of this petty State. I shall only therefore observe, that although there is an actual surplus revenue for 1884 (A. D. 1827-28), the charges include, independent of the whole expenditure of the State, the full amount of the Gaekwar tribute (Rs. 65,000), the fourth instalment (Rs. 85,000) of the debt guaranteed by the British Government, an instalment of the non-interest debt (Rs. 10,000), and several other items of disbursement of a special nature.

5. I had prepared for submission an estimate, as usual, of the revenues and charges of Rajpeepla for Sumvut 1885 (A. D. 1828-29), but after the same had been prepared, the Raja, for reasons before noticed, granted a considerable remission from the amount expected to have been realized. The exact sum cannot be ascertained until the accounts of 1885 (A. D. 1828-29) are furnished, and the formation of an estimate under this uncertainty is impracticable.

6. In reporting upon the finances of Rajpeepla for 1885 (A. D. 1828-29) there are two circumstances that will require attention. The first will be the complete extinction of the loan raised in 1823 under the guarantee of the British Government. This has already been effected, and I have myself destroyed the bond under which the loan was raised. The second circumstance is the termination of the septennial lease of the seven principal districts of Rajpeepla entered into under our guarantee.

7. Had I remained at Baroda, it would have afforded me no small gratification to have entered into a review of the affairs of Rajpeepla since it came under British supervision, since the termination of the septennial leases would have afforded the most proper occasion for doing so. This, however, cannot be done until the accounts of 1885 (A. D. 1828-29) have been balanced, and I have only here to observe, that the farmers have already delivered up the districts

they farmed to the local Government, and that it only remains to be ascertained what balances are really due to them before the lease contracts guaranteed by us are cancelled.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

Guzerat, Political Agent's Office,

Camp Jumbooseer, 27th October 1829.

*Statement exhibiting the Estimated Amount of the Resources of Rajpeepa for
Sumput 1884 (A. D. 1827-28); the Amount actually realized; the Increase
or Decrease of each item; together with an Explanation of the reason thereof.*

Nos.	Names of the different Resources.	Estimated Amount of each Resource.			Actual Amount of each Resource realized.			Increase of the latter above the former.			Decrease of the latter below the former.		
		Rs.	q.	r.	Rs.	q.	r.	Rs.	q.	r.	Rs.	q.	r.
1	Revenue from the seven lower Purganas in farm	2,14,807	0	0	2,14,807	0	0	.....			.....
2	Ditto from the three lower Purganas not in farm	6,289	0	0	6,289	0	0	.....			.....
3	Ditto from the Hili do.	5,103	0	0	5,103	0	0	.....			.....
4	Ditto from the Khangee land	3,901	0	0	3,901	0	0	.....			.....
5	Ditto from the Seerando.	1,551	0	0	1,551	0	0	.....			.....
6	Ditto from the village of Kurnalee	375	0	0	375	0	0	.....			.....
7	Ditto from the Cornelian mines	4,253	0	0	4,001	0	0	.....			252	0	0
8	Ditto from the Nakas, or customs	7,280	0	0	7,280	0	0	.....			.....
9	Ditto from the Ruttonpoor firewood	425	0	0	425	0	0	.....			.....
10	Ditto Tora Geeras rights from the Company's districts	12,375	0	25	12,375	0	25	.....			.....
11	Ditto ditto from the Gackwar's ditto.	1,570	0	0	1,570	0	0	.....			.....
12	Wuttow, or exchange.	6,000	0	0	7,226	1	62½	1,226	1	62½	.....	
13	Roze Mohsullee.	251	0	0	251	2	12½	3	2	12½	.....	
14	Dund Furroee, or fines.	1,301	0	0	801	1	25	.....			499	2	75
15	Potdarce, Government share of	3,300	0	0	3,287	2	75	.....			12	1	25
16	Kullall Buttee, or licenses to spirit vendors	500	0	0	659	2	50	159	2	50	.....	
17	Revenue expected from the villages received from the Mehwasseees.	250	0	0	250	0	0	.....			.....
18	Sirae Juma	627	0	0	1,207	3	62½	580	3	62½	.....	
Total. .		2,70,158	0	25	2,71,364	2	12½	1,970	1	87½	764	0	0

Abstract.

Total Estimated Resources were Rs. 2,70,158 0 25

Ditto Actual ditto ditto „ 2,71,364 2 12½

Increase above the Estimate is Rs. 1,206 1 87½

Abstract.

Total Actual Receipts were Rs. 2,71,364 2 12½

Ditto ditto Charges were „ 2,65,513 0 93½

Excess of the latter is Rs. 5,851 1 18½

*Guzerat, Political Agent's Office,
Camp Jumbooseer, 27th October 1827.*

Statement exhibiting the Estimated Amount of Disbursements for Sumvut 1884, (A. D. 1827-28); the Amount actually disbursed; the Increase or Decrease of each item; together with an Explanation of the reasons thereof.

Nos.	Names of the different Items.	Estimated Amount of each Item.			Actual Amount of each Item.			Increase in Actual Item.			Decrease in Actual Item.			
		Rs.	q.	r.	Rs.	q.	r.	Rs.	q.	r.	Rs.	q.	r.	
1	Private expenses of the Raja.	15,000	0	0	15,000	0	0	.....			.....
2	Ditto ditto of Narsing.....	12,000	0	0	12,000	0	0	.....			.....
3	Allowance to the Karbarees and Officers of the Government	8,200	0	0	8,200	0	0	.....			.....
4	100 Aswars, at Rs. 20 each per mensem	24,000	0	0	24,000	0	0	.....			.....
5	285 Peadas of all descriptions	23,760	0	0	23,760	0	0	.....			.....
6	Allowance granted to the Bheel Chief Kooer ..	1,500	0	0	1,500	0	0	.....			.....
7	Ditto ditto to the Karkoon stationed at Nandod ..	2,400	0	0	2,400	0	0	.....			.....
8	Ditto ditto to the Government Potdar	1,800	0	0	1,800	0	0	.....			.....
9	Sader Kurch, or contingencies.....	5,000	0	0	5,000	0	0	.....			.....
10	Tribute due to the Gaekwar Government ..	65,001	0	0	65,001	0	0	.....			.....
11	5th Kist due to the holders of the Rajpeepla loan under the guarantee of the British Government	85,001	0	0	85,000	0	0	1	0	0
12	Instalment of Gaekwar's non-interest debt	10,000	0	0	10,000	0	0	.....			.....
13	Balance due to the Government Potdar at the close of Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1826-27)	3,046	1	68 $\frac{3}{4}$	3,046	1	68 $\frac{3}{4}$	.....			.....
14	Advance to the Government to defray the expense of the Raja visiting his kinsman, the Raja of Mandvee, on his marriage	5,000	0	0	5,000	0	0	.....			.....
15	Sowkarce, or banking expenses	1,000	0	0	1,305	3	25	305	3	25	.....		
16	An elephant purchased by Government .....	.....			2,500	0	0	2,500	0	0	.....		
Total ..		2,62,708	1	68 $\frac{3}{4}$	2,65,513	0	93 $\frac{3}{4}$	2,805	3	25	1	0	0	

Abstract.

Estimated Amount of Charges was Rs. 2,62,708 1 68 $\frac{3}{4}$

Actual Amount of ditto ditto ,, 2,65,513 0 93 $\frac{3}{4}$

Excess above the Estimate was Rs. 2,804 3 25

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

RAJPEEPLA.

Abstract of Annual Reports showing the Effects of Mr. Willoughby's Septennial Settlements for the Relief of this Petty State from its Embarrassments.

Year.	Net Revenue.		Borrowed from Poddar.		Total.		Net Expenses.		Paid to Poddar.		Gaekwar Debt.		Total.		Balance remaining with Poddar.	
	Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.	Rs.	q. r.
Sumvut 1878, A. D. 1821-22...	2,02,083	3 25	15,565	0 43½	2,17,648	3 68½	92,648	3 68½	.....		1,25,000	0 0	2,17,648	3 68½		
" 1879 " 1822-23...	1,56,610	0 31½	33,751	1 18½	1,90,361	1 50	1,55,771	2 62	15,565	0 43½	19,024	3 0	1,90,361	1 50		
" 1880 " 1823-24...	1,99,153	1 31½	31,748	2 87½	2,30,902	0 18½	1,76,149	3 0	33,751	1 18½	21,001	0 0	2,30,902	0 18½		
" 1881 " 1824-25...	1,99,865	0 37½	31,457	1 50	2,31,322	1 87½	1,55,572	3 0	31,748	2 87½	44,001	0 0	2,31,322	1 87½		
" 1882 " 1825-26...	2,43,365	0 68½	18,655	2 81½	2,62,020	3 50	1,65,503	2 0	31,457	1 50	65,000	0 0	2,62,020	3 50		
" 1883 " 1826-27...	2,59,484	2 12½	3,046	1 68½	2,62,530	3 81½	1,68,874	1 0	18,655	2 81½	75,000	1 0	2,62,530	3 81½		
" 1884 " 1827-28...	2,71,364	2 12½	.....		2,71,364	2 12½	1,07,466	3 25	3,046	1 68½	95,000	0 0	2,65,513	0 93½	5,851	1 18½
Total...	15,31,926	2 18½	1,34,224	2 50	16,66,151	0 68½	10,82,047	2 0	1,34,224	2 50	4,44,027	3 0	16,60,299	3 50	5,851	1 18½

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS,
Resident.

Baroda Residency, 10th November 1829.

From C. NORRIS, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 27th November 1829.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 10th instant, No. 422, transmitting copy of a report from Mr. Willoughby on the revenues and charges of the Rajpeepla State for the year 1827-28, and to express the high satisfaction of Government with the report in question.

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. NORRIS, Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 27th November 1829.

VIOLATION,
BY THE RAJA OF RAJPEEPLA,
OF THE CONDITIONS ON WHICH HIS ESTATE HAD
BEEN ENTRUSTED TO HIS MANAGEMENT,
AND
MEASURES ADOPTED,
IN THE YEARS 1848 TO 1850,
FOR EXTRICATING THAT ESTATE FROM THE DISORDERS
INTO WHICH IT HAD FALLEN THROUGH THE CHIEF'S
MISMANAGEMENT.

VIOLATION BY THE RAJA OF RAJPEEPLA OF HIS ENGAGEMENTS WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From S. MANSFIELD, Esq., Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta,
To A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 19th April 1848.

SIR,—I have the honour to report, for the information of Government, that I have been making inquiries into the revenue management of the Rajpeepla State of the past year, Sumvut 1903 (A. D. 1846-47), and I now beg to submit the result.

2. In my letter No. 484, dated 9th August 1847, I reported that the Raja had farmed six out of seven of his Purgunas, without waiting for the permission of Government; and Mr. Ogilvy, in his letter No. 42, of the 22nd January last, reported that the farmers had not received guarantee of any description from the Political Agent.

3. The year before last the Raja forwarded to Mr. Seton Karr a statement showing how he had farmed out six Purgunas. In this statement was also shown the amount of revenue realizable from the unfarmed Purgunas, and other miscellaneous sources, during the ensuing seven years: a translation of this statement is forwarded with this report. The villages of two Purgunas, viz. Naudod and Panetha, were farmed separately; the other four were farmed by Purgunas. The farm commenced last year, Sumvut 1903 (A. D. 1846-47), and I have confined my inquiries to the revenue management of that year.

4. The only method to ascertain the exact amount of revenue realized from each village, was to examine the Ryuts regarding their payments, and to compare them with the sums they were credited for in the village accounts; but unfortunately I have not been able to secure any accounts that could be relied on. In some villages true accounts had been kept; but when the object of my inquiries became known, the figures were so altered and erased, that no information could be elicited from them of the exact amount of revenue collected, and in others they had been recently fabricated for the purpose of deception. It was impossible to examine all the Ryuts of every village as to their payments, or to prove their statements were correct, for no receipts had been given to them, and the only resource was to examine

the accounts of those Sowcars who had become security for the farmers, and ascertain what payments had been made to them. I accordingly sent for the accounts of five Sowcars, and though I have not been able to learn from them the exact amount of revenue realized, yet they show how the Raja and his Karbarees have intercepted the revenue as follows :—

- I. By suppressing the names of the villages in the statement forwarded by him to Mr. Seton Karr, and appropriating the revenue.
- II. By entering villages as farmed by different people at a much lower sum than they should have been, and keeping them in his own management.
- III. Collecting a larger amount of revenue under the head of “Sadur” and “Khangee Babbtee” than is entered in the statement.
- IV. Increasing old Veeras and levying new ones, and not paying them into the Potdar’s shop.
- V. Collecting money under the the head of “Sookree” from the farmers, and not paying it into the Potdar’s shop.
- VI. Increasing the quantity of Sheera land, and not paying the revenue derived therefrom into the Potdar’s shop.

5. On becoming aware of these particulars, I wrote to the Raja for an

Suppressing the names of the villages in the statement forwarded by him to Mr. Seton Karr, and appropriating the revenue.

explanation, and charged him with intercepting the revenues as above described; and in reply to the first charge, he states that he himself derives no revenue from the villages which are not entered in the statement.

He has given twelve villages to his Rancees, who enjoy the full benefit of them. The total revenues of these amount to Rs. 10,900. Some of these he states were assigned away so far back as Sumvut 1881 (A. D. 1824-25), and some so late as Sumvut 1902 (A. D. 1845-46), but without the sanction of Government.

6. How far this statement is to be relied on I cannot say, for no records showing when these villages were assigned are forthcoming. It is the practice, I believe, on the marriage of a Rajpoot Chief, to settle the revenues of a village on his Ranee for her ordinary expenses; but in the memorandum furnished by the Raja, I see some of the most valuable villages are stated to have been assigned away ten or twelve years after the marriage of the Ranee in whose name they are entered, and I therefore cannot but consider such an assignment as only made for the purpose of intercepting the revenues. I see also the revenues of the villages entered in the name of the Ranee who died in the beginning of Sumvut 1904 (July 1847) are not brought to the credit of the State, but are collected by the Raja.

7. Besides the above, the Raja has given away nine other villages for charitable and religious purposes, the revenues of which are estimated at about Rs. 4,000.

8. The second charge the Raja denies; but in the accounts of Shewuck Bhugwan and Gokul Narraindas, Sowcars of Nandod,

Entering villages as farmed by different people at a much lower sum than they should have been, and keeping them in his own management.

I find the revenues of four villages in the Panetha and five in the Nandod Purgunas credited to the eldest Ranec. What the actual realizations from them were I could not ascertain correctly, for only a portion of the revenues was entered in the accounts; but from information received from the district officers, the revenues realized must have been double the sums they are entered in the statement as having been farmed for, and this information is in a few instances confirmed by the village accounts.

9. As to the third charge, the Raja admits he has collected more money

Collecting a larger amount of revenue, under the head of Sadur and Khangee Babtee, than is entered in the statement.

under the head of "Sadur" and "Khangee Babtee" than he had entered in the statement; and in excuse for so doing he states, that up to Mr. Stuart's time he always received Rs. 14,900 under these heads; this sum Mr. Stuart ordered to be brought to the credit of the State: and in the statement forwarded to Mr. Karr, he (the Raja) entered the amount of "Sadur" and "Khangee Babtee" at Rs. 8,803. So much is brought to the credit of the State, and whatever in excess he has collected he has appropriated. The amount he has collected in excess in those villages in respect to which I have been making inquiries, is Rs. 1,450.

10. The fourth charge the Raja does not admit; but from the village

Increasing old Veeras, and levying new ones, and not paying them into the Potdar's shop.

accounts, and other sources of information, I have undoubted proof that he has increased old Veeras, and imposed new ones, which have never been brought to the credit of the State. For instance "Mulna Veera" was originally a fixed sum of seven rupees leviable from every village in the seven lower Purgunas, and this sum is increased in every village, in some cases to nineteen rupees. Whether the increase reaches the Raja's treasury I know not, but there is no doubt of its being collected in his name, and that Rs. 2,000 is annually realized under this head.

11. The new Veeras alluded to are "Kothee Veera" and "Gossae Veera."

The former varies in amount in different villages. I think the average will be found to be about four rupees a village, and to yield annually Rs. 500. The Raja states that this was imposed for the purpose of relieving the Ryuts from the burden of supplying fuel gratis to him and his officers; but I am afraid such is not the case, for I learn that notwithstanding the imposition of the Veera, fuel is still supplied gratis as before.

12. On the same principle he defends the Gossae Veera, which yields about Rs. 1,000 per annum. Formerly the Gossaees used to make a circuit of the Purgunas, and levy contributions on the villages. They gave a great

deal of annoyance to the Ryuts, and to put a stop to this he imposed the Veera, and pays the Gossaees himself. How far this statement is correct, I cannot say; but from the large sums entered in the village accounts as expended in the village for religious purposes, I am inclined to doubt it.

13. The Mulna Veera, Kothce Veera, and Gossae Veera have been annually collected, and not brought to account for many years: and on occasions an extra Veera is imposed; for instance, on the purchase of an elephant, a "Huttee Veera" is made, and last year, on the death of the youngest Rancee, a "Pote Veera" was made, at the rate of two per cent., on the revenues of the Purgunas, which yielded about Rs. 4,000.

14. The fifth charge the Raja partially admits, and excuses himself for so doing, as he had been building a Thanadar's Kutcheree in Bhalode. This admission, I suspect, was made in consequence of the Raja hearing that the farmer of the Bhalode Purguna had told me he had been obliged to pay Rs. 1,350 for "Sookree." The Raja does not appear to have been aware that I was in possession of proofs of his having made collections under the same name in other Purgunas. The sum mentioned above as having been paid by the Bhalode farmer, is credited in a Sowcar's book in the Raja's private account. This could not have been the case if it had been paid for the purpose of being expended in the manner described by the Raja. I do not think the sum collected by the Raja on account of "Sookree" could have been much under Rs. 10,000.

15. The sixth charge the Raja denies. From the depositions given before me by different farmers, there is no doubt of his having received revenues from lands denominated "Sheera," which never were so till lately.

16. The above charges refer principally to the Nandod, Panetha, Gowalce, Juggria, and Bhalode Purgunas. Regarding Ruttunpoor, Loona, and the hill districts, I have, owing to the very short period I have been in the district, been unable to procure very certain information.

17. In the last year of Gopal Rao Myral's farm (Sumvut 1896, A. D. 1839-40) the total receipts for that year, including Rs. 14,896 received by the Raja under the head of "Khangee Babbtee" and "Sadur," were Rs. 2,66,093-6-6; and I am of opinion that as much, if not a larger sum, was collected last year, for though in some few instances the cultivation has declined since then, it is certainly not the case with regard to the whole State.

18. In the Ruttunpoor Purguna there is not the same quantity of land in cultivation, owing, it is said, to several bad seasons, and to the ravages made by cholera. But the revenues have not fallen off to the extent the Raja would

wish to be believed. In Sumvut 1896 (A. D. 1839-40) the receipts from the land revenues of this Purguna were Rs. 31,479-4-0, and the last year, including Sadur, the receipts were Rs. 15,801, and from all I can ascertain the cultivation has not diminished more than four annas in the rupee; and therefore the Raja or his officers must have appropriated about Rs. 8,000.

19. Of the Waree Purguna I have been unable to obtain any information, but I see in a Sowcar's account the farmer of it has paid to the Raja's private account Rs. 1,733, which leads me to suppose that the Purguna is farmed at a sum much below its value.

20. The Gora and Gurdesur Purgunas are retained by the Maharana under his own management, and they are entered in the statement as yielding Rs. 4,518; and from a report made by a Karkoon I sent to examine the Patels of these two districts, I find the actual revenue paid to the Raja was Rs. 7,810. In the same manner have the Raja and his dependants intercepted the revenue of every description of resource, whether it is derived from the Cornelian mines, Abkaree, Sayer, timber, &c.

21. I have already stated there are no village accounts that can be depended on, and the Raja informs me there are no Talook or Hoozoor accounts, and therefore what were the actual realizations of revenue last year and in past years cannot be ascertained; but I think what I have already stated, together with the partial admission of the Raja, will be sufficient to convince the Honorable the Governor in Council that the whole revenues of the past year have not been paid into the Potdar's shop, and that a very considerable portion has been intercepted by the Raja. These disclosures will also explain the cause of the falling off of the revenues since Sumvut 1896 (A. D. 1839-40) as shown by the accounts annually prepared and forwarded by the Raja, and verify the suspicions of the Raja intercepting the revenues, as expressed in the 3rd para. of Mr. Chief Secretary Willoughby's letter, dated 24th December 1845, No. 5650.

22. Such being the case, it remains for Government to take such measures as it may deem fit for the future administration of the State, and the enforcement of its own orders. From the example set by the Raja, it is not to be wondered at that his Karbarces and their dependents have cheated him; and the farmers to meet his and their demands have been obliged to exact every rupee they could from the Ryuts, and in doing so have committed a great many very oppressive acts, such as collecting more than the "Gunwut," compelling holders of rent-free lands to pay an assessment on them, keeping back money payments due to Patels, Dhers, &c., and many other acts of a like description.

23. In my 17th paragraph I have mentioned that I do not think the cultivation of the whole State has declined since Sumvut 1896 (A. D. 1839-40)

the last year of Gopal Rao Myral's farm ; but the petitions made by the Ryuts previous to and during my circuit of this State, convince me that if the leases are not quashed, a large portion of the Ryuts will throw up their lands and desert their villages.

24. The Raja appears, from what I have seen of him, devoid of all energy, and incapable of managing the State ; and he has not a single respectable man in his employ competent to perform the duties of a Minister. Numbers of Ryuts told me they had petitioned the Raja but could obtain no redress, and if, as has been the case in some few cases, he listened to them and gave orders to the farmers in accordance with the prayer of their petitions, the farmers paid not the slightest attention to them, and the Raja was unable to compel them to do so.

25. The Raja, by surreptitiously intercepting the revenues, has committed a very heinous breach of faith with the British Government, and as he owes all he has to it, he would have no just grounds for complaint if the attachment of his State were determined on ; and I should not have had the slightest hesitation in recommending such a proceeding, did I not think the appointment of a Karbaree or Minister by Government would be attended with less permanent inconvenience, for all the Raja's private debts do not exceed four lakhs of rupees, which might be paid off in five years. After the debts had been discharged, there would be no grounds to continue the attachment, and the country would have to be restored to the Raja, who would not be then more competent to perform his duties than he is at present ; and I think, if he were spared the disgrace which would be entailed on him by the attachment of his country, he would be most willing to consent to a Karbaree being permanently appointed by the Government, and to bind himself to act in accordance with his advice.

26. The great objects to be attained are a permanent and equitable settlement of revenue, and the faithful record of the collections. At present there is no security for the Ryut. He may have, at the commencement of the cultivating season, agreed to pay a certain sum, and when his crops are ripe he is compelled to pay twenty-five or fifty per cent. more. If, therefore, the Honorable the Governor in Council should sanction the appointment of a Karbaree or Minister, he should be a person who has had some experience as a Mamlutdar in one of the Guzerat Zillas.

27. I would recommend that the farming system in every shape be discontinued ; for even supposing we could get Gopal Rao Myral or any other respectable Sowcar to farm the whole State, we cannot provide against villages being under-let, as was the case in the late farm ; and as the farmer and sub-lessees must have their profits, the Ryuts must suffer, and be compelled to pay a higher rate of assessment than we have any title to exact from them.

Moreover we cannot make the farmers keep an account of their collections, and if we could, we should not have the means of testing their accuracy. The revenues should, therefore, be settled in the manner it is done in our own territories. The amount of revenue should be settled by the Karbaree with each village, and the Potdar informed of the amount he is to receive. Accounts should be kept of all payments made by the Ryuts, to whom receipts should be given.

28. The Karbaree should have a salary of Rs. 300 a month, and two Mamlutdars under him, one on a salary of Rs. 150 in the lower Purgunas, and the other in the hill districts on Rs. 100. Each of these officers should have one or more Karkoons allotted to him, according to the duties required.

29. The only difficulty will be in the first year, owing to the absence of all accounts; for it is scarcely credible, though it is a fact, that the Raja has no records or accounts to show what are the actual revenues of his State. I believe Mr. Willoughby prepared a statement* showing the number of villages in all the Purgunas, the amount of revenue realizable therefrom, and the deductions on account of alienated lands, &c. This statement, owing to the confusion of the Residency records, I have not been able to find. Copy of this and other statements were forwarded to Government with Mr. Willoughby's letter to the address of Mr. Williams, dated 19th January 1822, and I should feel obliged if you could favour me with copies.

30. As to the police management of the country, I should be inclined to leave it, as at present, in the hands of the Raja, who punishes all lesser crimes, and those of greater magnitude he reports to the Political Agent, and decides by his advice. Should the Raja, however, seek to increase his receipts, by levying oppressive fines, he should be informed that such conduct would lead to the attachment of the State.

31. Should the Honorable the Governor in Council sanction my propositions, I will hereafter forward a list of the Raja's debts, and submit a plan for their discharge.

32. In conclusion, I request I may be favoured with instructions as speedily as possible. I have already stated how oppressive the conduct of the farmers has been, and how general the discontent of the Ryuts is; and should the farmers be notquashed immediately, the revenue will suffer a serious diminution. The whole system of the revenue management is vicious, and requires to be remodelled, and I have therefore refrained from giving any advice to the Raja on the subject, until I have been made acquainted with the sentiments of Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) S. MANSFIELD, Political Agent.

Rewa Kanta, Political Agent's Office,

Camp Nandod, 19th April 1848.

* Vide pages 551 to 579 of this Selection.

Statement of the Farm of the Rajpeela Districts forwarded

Names of Purganas.	Numbers.	Names of Villages.	Names of Farmers.	Sumvut 1903.
Nandod.	1	Nandod	Panda Bapoo Geerzashunker, of Nandod	Rs. 3,255
	2	Vudeea	Chasutia Suzan Singjee Bajeebawa, of ditto	1,441
	3	Thulee	Panda Nugeshwer Dulputram, of ditto	913
	4	Lachuruss	Ditto ditto ditto	6,706
	5	Sharao	Jeenabawa Dajeebawa, of ditto	2,247
	6	Mangrolee	Vasdeea Rambawa Kessurbawa, of ditto	2,222
	7	Tunkaree	Bhugwan Purbhoodas, of ditto	1,314
	8	Toomree	Mangrola Mokumsing, of Mangrolee	408
	9	Aneejura	Bhugwan Purbhoodas, of Nandod	673
	10	Bhuddam	Dessae Dyal Kessow, of Bhudam	4,421
	11	Torna	Mujmoodar Geerdhur Purbhoodas, of Roond	529
	12	Chittrahvaree ..	Chastna Sujun Singjee Bajeebawa, of Nandod ..	385
	13	Russala	Jeenabawa Dajeebawa, of ditto	288
	14	Jesulpoor	Pandu Bapoor Girjasunkur, of ditto	1,431
	15	Bhurchurwadoon	Bapoo Jugjeevun, of ditto	1,969
	16	Hurjunpoora ..	Ditto ditto ditto	1,238
	17	Dhanpoor	Geerdhur Purbhoodas, of Roond	1,249
	18	Dhumdachoo ..	Patel Metha Nagur, of Dhamnacha	2,219
	19	Olce	Bhugwan Purbhoodas, of Nandod	3,265
	20	Sesodra	Bhut Dhuruzram Hurreevullub, of ditto	6,501
	21	Nukole	Sheenpuree Bhowanecpooree, of ditto	1,239
	22	Thulce	Jeenabawa Dajeebawa, of ditto	481
	23	Wagoreea	Chastna Jeenbhawa Dajeebawa, of Nandod	481
	24	Jeetghud	Ditto ditto ditto	312
	25	Vandureea	Mangrola Mokumsing, of Mangrolee	75
	26	Leemutwara ..	Matum Bahrote, of Nandod	28
	27	Bhoochad	Joshee Jubhaee and Abbashunkur, of Nandod ..	516
	28	Patna	Barote Sirdarsing Bhowansing, of ditto	613
	29	Helumbee	Barote Mahatum, of ditto	125
	30	Nurkhdee	Ditto ditto ditto	375
	31	Goowar	Barote Shewbhyee, of ditto	375
	32	Nuwapoora	Gohel Veerabawa and Nujooba, of ditto	101
Total of the Nandod Purguna				47,448
Wurathce.	1	Paneitha	Desace Kala Nurseedas and Patel Poonja and Nurotum Vusta of Pancitha	4,311
	2	Motee Indore ..	Purbhoodas Rewadas, of Motee Indore	2,395
	3	Nanee Indore ..	Patel Kursun Bajee, of Nance Indore	721
	4	Asha	Panda Lalla Ambashunker, of Nandod	2,151
	5	Veloogaum	Patel Some Wujjoo, of Veloogaum	2,178
	6	Surshad	Nageshwer Dulputram, of Nandod	756
	7	Rajpoora Bhoo dele.	Cheetabawa Bajeebawa, of Weloogaum	1,821
Carried over				14,333

by the Raja to Mr. Seton Karr, Acting Political Agent.

Amount of Septennial and Decennial Leases.								Total.	Fixed Annual Charge or Dhurmadao <small>in Rs.</small>	Grand Total.
Sumvut 1904.	Sumvut 1905.	Sumvut 1906.	Sumvut 1907.	Sumvut 1908.	Sumvut 1909.	Sumvut 1910.	Sumvut 1911.			
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
3,455	3,505	3,555	3,655	3,755	3,855	..	..	25,035	146	25,181
1,515	1,515	1,541	1,591	1,615	1,641	..	..	10,859	60	10,919
913	963	1,013	1,063	1,213	1,363	..	..	7,441	38	7,479
6,865	6,956	7,106	7,206	7,306	7,506	..	..	49,642	295	49,937
2,271	2,297	2,347	2,397	2,471	2,521	..	..	16,551	104	16,655
2,272	2,398	2,398	2,498	2,798	2,998	..	..	17,585	103	17,688
1,340	1,390	1,440	1,464	1,614	1,740	..	..	10,302	61	10,363
434	485	508	558	608	608	..	..	3,609	17	3,626
823	849	873	923	1,123	1,223	..	..	6,485	28	6,513
4,774	4,824	5,024	5,124	5,324	5,499	..	..	34,993	102	35,095
579	603	653	679	729	779	..	..	4,551	22	4,572
409	435	485	535	535	585	..	..	3,369	16	3,385
288	288	288	288	288	288	..	..	2,016	13	2,029
1,531	1,555	1,581	1,605	1,631	1,681	..	..	11,015	70	1,185
2,069	2,119	2,219	2,319	2,419	2,619	..	..	15,733	82	15,815
1,288	1,312	1,338	1,388	1,438	1,488	..	..	9,490	63	9,553
1,399	1,423	1,449	1,699	1,848	2,048	..	..	11,117	52	11,179
2,269	2,269	2,269	2,269	2,269	2,245	..	..	15,859	106	15,965
3,715	3,765	3,789	3,765	3,865	3,865	..	..	26,029	136	26,165
7,201	7,401	7,501	7,701	8,001	8,101	..	..	52,407	300	52,707
1,313	1,339	1,389	1,439	1,489	1,489	..	..	9,697	62	9,759
481	481	481	481	481	481	..	..	3,367	20	3,387
531	531	580	655	730	855	..	..	4,367	20	4,383
312	312	312	312	312	312	..	..	2,184	13	2,197
101	101	101	101	101	101	..	..	681	0	681
28	28	28	28	28	28	..	..	196	0	196
516	516	516	516	516	516	..	..	3,612	0	3,612
613	613	613	613	613	613	..	..	4,291	0	4,291
125	125	125	125	125	125	..	..	875	0	875
375	375	375	375	375	375	..	..	2,625	0	2,625
375	375	375	375	375	375	..	..	2,625	0	2,625
101	101	101	101	101	101	..	..	707	0	707
50,272	51,220	52,373	53,848	56,097	57,925	..	..	3,69,183	2,028	3,71,211
4,436	4,510	4,686	4,710	4,936	5,036	..	..	32,625	237	32,862
2,495	2,595	2,695	2,745	2,845	2,845	..	..	18,615	164	18,779
771	821	845	871	895	921	..	..	5,845	60	5,905
2,301	2,351	2,425	2,555	2,601	2,601	..	..	16,985	150	17,135
2,378	2,478	2,678	2,702	2,802	2,878	..	..	18,044	173	18,217
806	856	906	956	1,006	1,056	..	..	6,342	34	6,376
1,871	1,921	1,945	2,021	2,025	2,076	..	..	13,630	137	13,767
15,058	15,532	16,180	16,560	17,110	17,413	..	..	1,12,086	955	1,13,041

Names of Purgunas.	Numbers.	Names of Villages.	Names of Farmers.	Amount of		
				Sumvut 1903.	Sumvut 1904.	Sumvut 1905.
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
			Brought over.	14,333	15,058	15,532
	8	Naora	Cheetabawa Bajcebawa, of			
			Weloogaum	1,926	1,976	2,026
	9	Kandlez . .	Bheekareedas Kandas, of			
			Kandlez	1,983	2,383	2,433
	10	Suryalee . .	Maheera Ryesing Khooshal-			
			sing, of Nandod	1,086	1,086	1,186
	11	Jamboce . .	Goshace Shcesopoooree Bho-			
			wancepooore, of Nandod . .	720	720	770
	12	Roomalpoora.	Ditto ditto ditto	231	255	281
	13	Oomdhaira .	Vurda Bheekareedas Desace,			
			of Panetha	568	618	692
	14	Muhoowara.	Ditto ditto ditto	333	357	383
	15	Fuchwara . .	Desace Dada Narer, of Panetha.	911	961	1,011
	16	Peepuldhura	Dhuruzram Hurreevullub, of			
			Nandod	493	543	593
	17	Waghpoora.	Punday Nagashur Dulputram,			
			of Nandod	86	116	160
	18	Dhoondo . .	Maheera Ryesing Khooshal			
			Sing	701	751	801
	19	Parwuta . .	Desace Vurdha Bheekareedas,			
			of Panetha	261	285	311
	20	Raysingpoora.	Ditto ditto ditto	326	350	376
	21	Rajoowaria .	Muheera Tukutsingjee, of			
			Nandod	1,426	1,426	1,426
	22	Oonlla	Ditto ditto ditto	425	425	425
	23	Banla	Chastea Kasarbawa, of Nandod.	575	575	575
	24	Rela	Ditto ditto ditto	375	375	375
	25	Moolud. . . .	Bhut Dhurajram Hurreevul-			
			lub, of Nandod	101	101	101
			Total of Wurathee Purguna.	26,860	28,355	29,457
Bhalode . .	.....	.....	Desace Wishwanath Myaram			
			and Punjeevan Dolutram,			
			of Bhalode	25,453	26,112	26,803
Jugguria . .	.....	.....	Desace Runchorerace Cho-			
			taram, of Shada, Purguna			
			Sooltanpoor, Zilla Khan-			
			desh	11,926	12,926	13,426
Gowalee . .	.....	.....	Ditto ditto ditto	10,976	11,526	12,526
Loona . . . .	.....	.....	Hurreelall Pursotum, of			
			Nandod	5,751	6,151	6,551
Ruttunpoor.	.....	.....	Under the Raja's direct			
			management	14,501	16,001	18,001
			Total of the 7 Purgunas. .	1,42,915	1,51,343	1,57,984

Septennial and Decennial Leases.

Sumvut 1906.	Sumvut 1907.	Sumvut 1908.	Sumvut 1909.	Sumvut 1910.	Sumvut 1911.	Sumvut 1912.	Total.	Fixed Annual Charge or Dhurmadao Expenses.	Grand Total.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
16,180	16,560	17,110	17,413	..	..	..	1,12,086	955	1,13,041
2,050	2,100	2,150	2,200	..	..	..	14,428	141	14,569
2,583	2,633	2,633	2,783	..	..	..	17,431	126	17,557
1,336	1,386	1,386	1,486	..	..	..	8,952	55	9,007
820	896	921	946	..	..	..	5,793	45	5,838
305	331	381	431	..	..	..	2,215	15	2,230
718	768	818	918	..	..	..	5,100	62	5,162
407	433	457	463	..	..	..	2,833	13	2,846
1,085	1,111	1,185	1,311	..	..	..	7,575	68	7,643
643	693	717	743	..	..	..	4,425	48	4,473
160	186	210	236	..	..	..	1,148	11	1,159
825	851	875	901	..	..	..	5,705	38	5,743
311	365	361	411	..	..	..	2,275	50	2,325
400	426	450	476	..	..	..	2,804	19	2,823
1,426	1,426	1,426	1,426	..	..	..	9,982	14	9,996
425	425	425	425	..	..	..	2,975	14	2,989
575	575	575	575	..	..	..	4,025	11	4,036
375	375	375	375	..	..	..	2,625	10	2,635
101	101	101	101	..	..	..	707	..	707
30,675	31,611	32,556	33,570	..	..	..	2,13,084	1,675	2,14,759
27,580	28,399	29,511	30,685	..	..	..	1,94,543	1,500	1,96,043
13,926	14,426	14,675	14,926	..	..	..	96,231	775	97,006
12,976	13,476	13,976	14,226	..	..	..	89,682	725	90,407
7,051	7,551	8,051	8,551	9,051	10,051	11,451	80,210	800	81,010
21,001	24,001	26,001	26,001	..	..	..	1,45,507	1,300	1,46,807
1,65,582	1,73,312	1,80,867	1,85,884	9,051	10,051	11,451	1,18,440	8,803	1,19,243

Names of Purgunas.	Names of Farmers.	Amount of			
		Sumrut 1903.	Sumrut 1904.	Sumrut 1905.	Sumrut 1906.
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
	Brought over..	1,42,915	1,51,343	1,57,984	1,65,582
Gora.....	Under the Raja's direct management..	2,101	2,151	2,175	2,201
Gurdasur.....	Ditto ditto ..	2,901	2,951	3,001	3,051
Kunthul.....	Ditto ditto ..	2,151	2,201	2,251	2,275
Hill Purgunas....	Ditto ditto ..	5,102	5,252	5,326	5,402
Khangee lands....	Ditto ditto ..	2,101	2,151	2,201	2,301
Sheera lands.....	Jaykurn Curroojee, of Nandod	1,675	1,701	1,725	1,775
Customs	Ditto ditto ..	7,701	7,701	7,701	7,701
Kurnalee	Under the Raja's direct management..	401	415	425	451
Produce of Ruttunpoor woods....	Ditto ditto ..	415	425	425	435
Kullal Bhuttee....	Ditto ditto ..	901	951	1,001	1,051
Cornelian mines ..	Paruck Chugun Foolchund, of Cambay.	1,901	2,101	2,301	2,601
Fines and Mohsullee.....	.....	1,701	1,701	1,701	1,701
Revenue from the Mehwassee villages.....	.....	251	251	251	251
Geeras from the Gaekwar's districts .....	.....	1,570	1,570	1,570	1,570
Do. from the Honorable Company's districts .....	.....	12,375·1	12,375·1	12,375·1	12,375·1
Sivase Juma.....	.....	1,001	1,001	1,001	1,001
Exchange between Broach and Baroda Rupees ....	.....	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Drawback allowance on money payments. ....	.....	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
	Total..	52,248·1	52,898·1	53,930·1	54,142·1
	Grand Total..	1,95,163·1	2,04,241·1	2,11,414·1	2,19,724·1

Septennial and Decennial Leases.						Total.	Charity or Dharmadao Expenses.	Grand Total.
Sumvut 1907.	Sumvut 1908.	Sumvut 1908.	Sumvut 1910.	Sumvut 1911.	Sumvut 1912.			
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,73,312	1,80,867	1,85,884	9,051	10,051	11,451	11,88,440	8,803	11,97,243
2,251	2,275	2,301	..	..	..	15,455	..	15,455
3,151	3,251	3,301	..	..	..	21,607	..	21,607
2,301	2,351	2,451	..	..	..	15,981	..	15,981
5,552	5,702	6,052	..	..	..	38,388	..	38,388
2,401	2,501	2,601	..	..	..	16,257	..	16,257
1,801	1,851	1,901	..	..	..	12,429	..	12,429
7,701	7,701	7,701	..	..	..	53,907	..	53,907
465	475	501	..	..	..	3,133	..	3,133
451	465	475	..	..	..	3,091	..	3,091
1,075	1,125	1,201	..	..	..	7,305	..	7,305
2,701	2,801	3,101	..	..	..	17,407	..	17,407
1,701	1,701	1,701	..	..	..	11,907	..	11,907
251	251	251	..	..	..	1,757	..	1,757
1,570	1,570	1,570	..	..	..	10,990	..	10,990
12,375·1	12,375·1	12,375·1	..	..	..	86,625·7	..	86,625·7
1,001	1,001	1,001	..	..	..	7,007	..	7,007
5,000	5,000	5,000	..	..	..	35,000	..	35,000
3,000	3,000	3,000	..	..	..	21,000	..	21,000
54,748·1	55,396·1	56,384·1	..	..	..	3,79,246·7	..	3,79,246·7
2,28,060·1	2,36,263·1	2,42,268·1	9,051	10,051	11,451	15,37,686·7	8,803	15,76,489·7

(True translation)

(Signed) S. MANSFIELD, Political Agent Rewa Kanta.

No. 4716 of 1848.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To T. OGILVY, Esq., Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta.

Dated 9th November 1848.

SIR,—I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Mansfield's letter, dated the 19th April last, No. 196, with enclosures, reporting the result of the inquiries instituted by him into the revenue management of the Rajpeepla State for the year 1846-47.

2. In reply, I am instructed to observe, that past experience has shown that under proper supervision, and with ordinary good faith on the part of the Raja, the revenues of this State are ample to meet all legitimate demands; and Mr. Mansfield's report proves that existing difficulties have not been occasioned by any serious falling off of the resources, but in consequence of a considerable portion of the amount actually realized having been intercepted by the Raja and appropriated to his own use, in violation of the conditions under which the State was entrusted to his management.

3. That such a state of things should have been allowed to be undetected for so long a period, His Lordship in Council considers betrays a laxity of supervision on the part of the Agents, by no means creditable to them. An attempt is made to transfer the blame of this neglect to the four Karkoons stationed in the Rajpeepla districts. But this cannot be allowed; for if they were incompetent or untrustworthy, they ought long ago to have been discharged, and to have been replaced by more efficient agents.

4. As the first step to be adopted, His Lordship in Council directs that you will proceed forthwith to Rajpeepla, and, after full inquiry on the spot, report the result of your observations to Government, and suggest such remedial measures as may appear to you desirable.

5. The only objects which the British Government can have in view in interfering with the Rajpeepla administration, are—first, to secure the punctual realization of the demands for which it is responsible; and second, to secure such a police, as will prevent its own subjects from suffering from the depredations of the wild tribes, composing the chief part of the population of a considerable portion of Rajpeepla.

6. It seems immaterial how these objects are secured, provided they are effectually secured; and I am directed to suggest the four following modes for your consideration:—

1st.—Withdrawal from all interference with the Raja's administration, on his furnishing good security, or his assigning a portion of his resources

sufficient for the payment of the Gaekwar tribute, an instalment of the debt due to the British Government, the small pension assigned to the late Minister's family, and a moderate instalment of the old debt due by the State, a part of which, due to the heirs of the late Choonelal of Surat, has lately been recognized.

2nd.—That the British Government shall again assume the whole management of the State, uncontrolled by the local administration, and continue to do so until all public pecuniary obligations have been satisfied; a suitable provision being, during this period, assigned for the Raja's support.

3rd.—That a certain portion of the resources of the State, sufficient to liquidate these demands, be only sequestered, the remainder being subject to the Raja's exclusive control.

4th and lastly.—Appointing a Minister to manage the affairs of the State in concert with the Raja.

7. The first arrangement His Lordship in Council considers to be the most satisfactory, though the character of the present Raja and of the people about him is understood to be opposed to its adoption; notwithstanding that in a late report you have stated that the next financial report of the Rajpéepla State will exhibit a surplus of revenue over expenditure.

8. His Lordship in Council does not deem it necessary to remark on the various topics noticed in Mr. Mansfield's report until the extent of the future interference of Government with the administration of Rajpéepla has been determined, since, if the first of the proposed arrangements is practicable, past fraud and mismanagement may be overlooked.

9. In case, however, a continuance of minute supervision cannot be dispensed with, His Lordship in Council is of opinion that the Raja should be required to refund the Government portions of the revenues he may have misappropriated, the amount being deducted from his personal Nemnook. The scale of expenditure fixed for the State should also be revised, and all superfluous disbursements be disallowed. The alienations of the State resources, recently made by the Raja without the sanction of Government, whether to his Ranees or to favoured individuals, or to religious institutions, should be resumed, on the well known and admitted principle that a tributary State is not at liberty to make such alienations of the resources from whence its tribute is to be defrayed.

10. It is matter of surprise to Government that the voluminous statements referred to in para. 29 of Mr. Mansfield's report are not forthcoming in your office. I am directed to transmit copies of these statements to you, and to inform you that the records relating to Rajpéepla, during the period the Honorable Mr. Willoughby was in charge of the State from 1820 to 1829,

must contain authentic information of all its resources, and enable you to defeat any attempts on the part of the present administration to deceive you in regard to their amount, and to detect any recent alienations.

11. With respect to the measures which should be adopted to effect an adjustment of the accounts of the Potdaree, I am instructed to refer you to my communication of this date, No. 4715.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. MALET, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 9th November 1848.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From T. OGILVY, Esq., Political Agent Rewa Kanta,
To W. COURTNEY, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government.

Buroda, April 13th, 1849.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Malet's letter of the 9th November last, No. 4716, in reply to Mr. Mansfield's of the 19th April previous, No. 196, with enclosures, reporting the result of his inquiries into the revenue management of Rajpeepla for 1846-47.

2. Government expressed their displeasure that the state of things reported by Mr. Mansfield should have been allowed to continue so long undetected, and directed me to proceed to Rajpeepla, and, after full inquiry on the spot, to suggest such remedial measures as might appear desirable.

3. The only objects proposed by the British Government are stated to be, the punctual payment of the demands for which they are responsible, and to secure such a police as shall protect the neighbouring British territories from the predatory tribes of Rajpeepla.

4. Four courses are suggested for consideration : 1st.—To withdraw from all interference in the Raja's administration, on his furnishing good security, or on his assigning a portion of his resources sufficient to meet all the demands on his State for the payment of which Government held themselves responsible. 2nd.—To assume the exclusive management of the State, assigning a suitable maintenance to the Raja, until all public pecuniary obligations have been satisfied. 3rd.—To sequester a portion only of the resources, sufficient to liquidate the demands. 4th.—To appoint a Minister to manage affairs in concert with the Raja.

5. Mr. Mansfield reported that the Raja had suppressed the names of certain villages in a statement forwarded to the Agency, and retained in his own management others, entered as farmed for sums less than he received from them; that he collected, under the heads of "Sadur" and "Khangee," larger

sums than he brought to account; that he increased old cesses, and levied new ones without paying them into the State bank; that he levied money under the name of "Sookree" from the farmers, which he did not bring to account; and that he increased the quantity of assigned lands, and misappropriated their produce.

6. Mr. Mansfield estimates that as much as Rs. 40,000 have, in this manner, been intercepted by the Raja, and expresses it as his opinion that the resources of the State have not materially diminished since the last year of Gopal Rao Myral's lease. He observes that the demands of the Raja and his officers have forced the farmers to oppress the Ryuts so much, that a continuance of their leases must oblige the cultivators to abandon the country. He considers that the Raja's breach of faith would justify attachment; but, as the country would necessarily revert to him after his debts had been liquidated, he recommends that a Minister should be appointed by the British Government, with a suitable establishment, to manage the country irrespective of the Raja.

7. Before I venture to offer an opinion on the remedies suggested by Government, I trust I may be permitted to explain, on behalf of Mr. Mansfield's predecessors, that Government do not appear to me to have been kept in ignorance of the nature of the Raja's administration, but that the Political Agents have felt that the case demanded delicacy and caution, for the sake of both the Raja and his people. It probably occurred to them, that so long as there appeared a prospect that his engagements would be fulfilled, it was inexpedient to weaken the Raja's influence by encouraging false hopes and resistance to his authority. They may have thought that attachment could at any time be adopted as a last resort, without, in the mean time, bringing on the country the doubtful good, but certain evils, of divided and conflicting authority.

8. Government are disposed in some degree to exonerate from blame the four Karkoons stationed in Rajpeepla, on the ground that their remissness was the natural consequence of the laxity of their superiors. Allowing full weight to this consideration, it appears to me that the liberal salaries they enjoyed, demanded greater activity on their part. It was assuredly their duty to communicate to the Political Agent the result of the observations their positions enabled them to make. Still I think with regard to three of them, Sudaseeveray Hurreebhoy, Mahashunker Oomyashunker, and Luxumun Rao Mahadeo, that they might be allowed certificates of having served under Government, and so be rendered eligible for employment elsewhere. I think that the circumstances reported by Mr. Mansfield regarding Suntokray Anundray, are sufficiently suspicious to create distrust in that person's honesty.

9. In accordance with the instructions of Government, I moved my camp to Nandod on the 16th of February last, and on the 23rd of the same month closed the guaranteed Bank. I shall do myself the honour to report separately on this subject.

10. During the whole of my stay at Nandod my time was fully occupied in adjusting disputes between the Raja and the farmers, and between the farmers and the Ryuts, and in inquiry into numerous cases that came before me.

11. I respectfully urged the Raja to reply to the many references made to him by Mr. Mansfield and myself, and at length received a general answer from him that the resistance that had been offered to his authority made him afraid to institute the requisite inquiries; and my observations lead me to rely on the truth of this statement. Numerous petitions have been presented to me that ought first to have been made to the Raja, and I have found it necessary to issue a public notice, that I should not countenance any attempts to evade payment of the just dues of Government.

12. In regard to the Raja's violation of contract in intercepting the revenue, I beg to submit that his conduct in this respect should be viewed with much indulgence. The restraints that have for so many years been imposed on his expenditure must have proved extremely irksome to him, and the evasions he has practised were perhaps to be expected from the untrained mind of a person of his class. He does not altogether deny the accusations brought against him; but he has attempted to defend his conduct on the plea of increasing expenses. He has frequently and earnestly assured me that he is most anxious to act in accordance with the wishes of Government, and he has in many instances endeavoured to give proofs of his sincerity. He has, with the utmost readiness, issued a Proclamation rendering penal the sale or purchase of slaves in his territory; he has agreed to maintain a vaccinator at Nandod on a salary of eighteen Baroda rupees a month, and a schoolmaster on twenty rupees, to be charged to the general revenues; he has consented to take hereditary securities from the villages bordering on British territory in communication with the Political Agent; and he has promised to publish sanitary rules for the health and cleanliness of his towns and villages.

13. It is true that fears, resulting from his own misconduct, may draw from him many insincere professions; but I am in hopes that a conciliatory course may enable the Political Agent to effect more through the Raja's willing co-operation than by any other means short of absolute sequestration.

14. In considering what course should be adopted for the future management of Rajpeepla, it is necessary to detail the Raja's obligations.

Obligations of the Rajpeepla State that ought to be annually paid through the British Government.

Gaekwar's tribute	Rs. 65,001
Allowance to the sons of Purboodas Bukshee. ..	„ 5,600
Allowance to Soorujkoor and to the family of the late Purtab Sing	„ 4,800
Annual stipend to the family of the Bheel who was burnt to death	„ 50
Salary of 4 Karkoons stationed in Rajpeepla. ..	„ 2,400
Allowance to the Bheel Chief of Sakhabara on condition of service	„ 1,500

Total.. Rs. 79,351

15. The annual payments from Rajpeepla which the British Government may feel bound to enforce, amount to Rupees 79,351. This sum will become considerably reduced by the lapse of annuities ; and the salaries of four Karkoons stationed at

Rajpeepla are subject to the pleasure of Government.

16. The balance of the military expenses due to the British Government will, at the close of the year, amount, after the payment of an instalment of Rs. 20,000, to Rs. 14,666-10-4.

17. Mr. Remington, in his letter to the late Mr. Boyd, dated the 27th April 1842, No. 112 A, reported on the Raja's private debts, the principal of which amounted to Rs. 7,00,423-8-0, and the interest, at different rates, to Rs. 19,26,534-10-3.

18. In Mr. Secretary Willoughby's letter, dated 24th November 1845,

1. The heirs of Lalla Chooneelal of Surat	Rs. 60,901	0	0
2. The heirs of Purshotum Ruttunram	„ 2,599	4	0
3. Moddee Bhookun Madowjee.....	„ 2,176	0	0
4. Purboodas Vundrawundas.....	„ 32,156	0	0

Rs. 97,832 4 0

No. 5321, Government decided that four claims, amounting to a principal of Rupees 97,832-4-0, should be allowed, provided the Raja admitted them, or was

unable to bring forward any valid objections.

19. In the 5th para. of that communication, Government directed that the claim of Bhowaneedas Bhanadas to Rs. 30,000, forming No. 2 in the statement accompanying Mr. Remington's letter noticed above, should be inquired into, provided the creditor furnished proofs to establish his claims within a given period ; and further ordered that he should be informed that otherwise his case would not afterwards be considered. Mr. Stuart accordingly addressed that person on the 22nd January 1846 at Bombay, the place of residence specified in his petition, and, as no reply has been received, I presume that the demand must be finally rejected.

20. In dismissing the other claims, amounting to a principal of Rs. 6,02,591-4-0, Government directed that the Raja should be requested to investigate those claims, and, with some exceptions, provide for their liquidation should they prove just.

21. In Mr. Willoughby's letter to the late Mr. Williams, dated the 22nd February 1822, regarding the debts due by Rajpeepla, some demands

against the State are noticed that were not preferred before Mr. Remington.

22. Rs. 60,000 are entered as the probable amount due to Heemabhaee of Ahmedabad. I do not find that this claim has been advanced since that time, and therefore interference would not appear requisite.

23. Rs. 46,654 are entered as advanced to Nursing by Shroffs of Baroda. The sum of Rs. 3,000 advanced by Modee Bhookun, forming No. 5 in Mr. Remington's statement, is probably a portion of that sum; as is also the item of Rs. 30,000 noticed in my 19th paragraph. No claimants have appeared for the remainder of that amount, and consequently I presume no further inquiry need be made regarding it.

24. There is another entry of Rs. 48,037, claimed by Abdoolla Jumadar. This person advanced no claims before Mr. Remington; but the sons of the late Jumadar petitioned Mr. Mansfield and myself for Rs. 41,201 on three bonds; Rs. 34,501 on a bond dated Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1827), and Rs. 6,700 on two bonds dated several years later. Making inquiries, it appeared that in Sumvut 1883 (A. D. 1827) the Jumadar pressed the Raja to settle his accounts, and that, after some negotiation, he agreed to accept of a bond for Rs. 40,000 in lieu of all previous claims, on condition of recovering the amount by regular instalments. A portion of that sum was paid; but a balance of Rs. 34,501 remains still due. The two bonds for Rs. 6,700 were fresh acknowledgments, granted during the Bukshee's management, of which the Raja denies all knowledge. It appears to me, consequently, that the first item should be allowed, and the last (Rs. 6,700) left entirely to the Raja's own discretion.

25. A claim for Rs. 5,500, advanced by Umrut Rao Dwarka Shroff, is also noticed; but as I do not find that this sum has ever been claimed since the period of Mr. Willoughby's report, it may probably be thought unnecessary to entertain the case now.

26. Rs. 8,000 are entered as due to certain Bramins of Chandod. No allusion is made to this claim by Mr. Remington; but when my camp was lately at Nandod, eight bonds were presented to me, dated in Sumvut 1859 (A. D. 1803), for Rs. 54,554-8-0, purporting to have been granted, seven of them by Raja Ajebsing, and one by Raja Ramsing, to Ganda Tooljaram and others of Chandod. The Raja's Minister professed entire ignorance of the existence of such bonds, and it appears to me hardly requisite that Government should interfere for the settlement of claims advanced at so late a period, and for such remote times, since it would be difficult to ascertain the particulars of those transactions now, and because acknowledgments of this kind are sometimes given by Native Princes to favoured individuals with reckless extravagance.

27. The debts against the State, for the settlement of which Govern-

Heirs of Lalla Choonelal of Surat .. Rs.	60,901	0	0	ment may probably wish
Heirs of Purshotum Ruttunram „	2,599	4	0	to interfere, amount to
Modée Bhookun Madowjee	2,176	0	0	Rs. 1,32,333-4-0, or, add-
Purboodas Vundrawundas	32,156	0	0	ing Rs. 14,666-10-4 due to
Sons of Abdoolla Jumadar	34,501	0	0	the British Government
Total.. Rs.	1,32,333	4	0	for military expenses, to
Add for Military Expenses due to the				
British Government	14,666	10	4	Rs. 1,46,999-14-4.
Grand Total.. Rs.	1,46,999	14	4	

28. The Raja has expressed his readiness to be guided by the advice of Government in regard to the demands against his State, and is prepared to admit the principal of these claims, though still expressing doubts of their accuracy.

29. He is desirous of entering into a compromise with the heirs of Lalla Choonelall, and promises, that if his negotiations do not succeed within fifteen days, he will recognize the principal at once.

30. The Raja thinks that a part of the sum of Rs. 2,599-4-0, claimed by Purshotum Ruttunram, has been paid by the State bank; but he will admit that sum provided the bank accounts do not confirm his impression.

31. In regard to Rs. 2,176 claimed by Modée Bhookun, and Rs. 32,156 claimed by Purboodas Vundrawundas, the Raja doubts whether these claims were advanced in full, though he admits that he cannot produce proofs to refute them. The latter creditor has produced copies of accounts showing that the bond he now holds was substituted for one of earlier date, and promises to produce the originals before the Raja.

32. The Raja was at first inclined to dispute the claims of Abdoolla Jumadar's sons; but when reminded of the long services of that person, he agreed to satisfy the demands of his heirs within a given period.

33. Debts amounting to Rs. 1,01,666-11-6, contracted during the Bukshee's management, were, under the instructions contained in Mr. Secretary Townsend's letter, dated 1st June 1844, No. 1780, referred to the Raja to settle justly. Verisaljee expresses entire ignorance of these transactions in the absence of all the Bukshee's papers and accounts, and his suspicions that they were misappropriations. He declares his willingness, at the same time, to inquire into these claims, and to satisfy such as may prove just.

34. It appears to me, however, that as the Raja was well known to have been restricted to a fixed allowance, it would be impolitic in Government to recognise debts contracted in defiance of their own arrangements, and repudiated by the Raja.

35. Verisaljee admits that he has himself contracted about Rs. 35,000 of debt, and probably that is an under-estimate.

36. He wishes to adopt the following plan to meet his obligations. By the end of A. D. 1848-49 a surplus of about Rs. 68,000 will remain available for this purpose. At the close of the current year, a balance of Rs. 14,666-10-4 will remain due to the British Government, after the payment of the usual instalment of Rs. 20,000 for military expenses. The Raja is desirous that this debt should be extinguished at once during the current year; that Rs. 15,000 should be paid to his personal creditors; and the remaining Rs. 38,334 applied in part liquidation of the old debt.

37. It is probable that the misappropriations of the Potdar (banker) will more than cover the remainder of the old debt, amounting to Rs. 93,999; but should these expectations be disappointed, the Raja requests, that out of the expected surplus of about Rs. 70,000 in 1849 and 1850, Rs. 30,000 be applied towards the liquidation of the old debt, reducing it to Rs. 63,999; that Rs. 20,000 should be paid to his own creditors; and that the balance of about Rs. 17,000 be added to his personal Nemnook (allowance).

38. I hardly think it necessary to enforce the payment of more than the principal of the old debt, as the amount specified in the bonds probably included both premium and some interest, whilst it is likely that the claimants would have received nothing without the interference of Government.

39. It might be advisable to appropriate the whole of the surplus towards discharging the old debt; as, by complying with the Raja's wishes, we should appear to sanction a disregard of our own injunctions.

40. After the current year the surplus may be expected to be not less than Rs. 70,000 a year up to the close of the present farms, provided the Raja's allowance be not raised. Thus, by the end of 1849-50, nearly all the old debts would be liquidated.

40A. When the British Government undertook the management of this Principality in 1821-22, its pecuniary embarrassments amounted almost to bankruptcy; but as the Raja Narsing was incapacitated from government by blindness, and as his son Verisaljee was a minor, we were enabled to adopt our own financial arrangements for its relief.

Gackwar's claims, according to the accompaniment to Mr. Willoughby's letter of the 22nd February 1822 ..	Rs. 23,37,043 4 6
Claims of other Creditors, according to the statement.....	„ 7,52,805 0 0
Total debt of Mr. Willoughby's time..	Rs. 30,89,848 4 6
Add Military expenses due to the British Government	„ 2,32,000 0 0
Total..	Rs. 33,21,848 4 6

41. His Highness the Gackwar claimed more than Rs. 23,00,000, and the whole demands against the State amounted to about Rs. 33,00,000.

42. His Highness the Gaekwar was induced to lower his demands to

Remitted by the Gaekwar.....	Rs. 15,26,859	11	9
Do. by the British Government. „	77,333	5	4
Claims of creditors disallowed.	5,00,000	0	0
Do. considered forfeited by the claimants' own negligence	1,17,153	0	0
Cancelled by compromise	8,036	0	0
Paid by the Raja to Abdoola Jumadar.	5,500	0	0
Do. do. to Bhokun Modec.	825	0	0
Total..	Rs. 23,35,707	4	1

Rs. 7,10,183-4-9; the British Government remitted a third of their claims on account of military expenses; Rs. 5,00,000 have been disallowed, and claims to the extent of Rs. 1,17,154 would appear to have be-

come forfeited; Rs. 8,036 were cancelled by compromise; and Rs. 6,325 were paid by the Raja. So that the burden weighing on the State was reduced to Rs. 9,86,141-0-5.

43. Rs. 12,12,501 will have been discharged by the end of the current

The Gaekwar debt	* Rs. 9,86,141	0	5
Interest on do.....	† „ 1,41,045	9	9
Fresh loans	‡ „ 2,06,606	0	9
Total	Rs. 13,33,792	10	11
Paid off.....	„ 12,12,501	10	11
Balance due.....	Rs. 1,21,291	0	0
Add interest on a particular item ..	„ 7,542	0	0
Excess in Lalla Chooneelal's bond, beyond that entered in Mr. Willoughby's statement ..	„ 901	0	0
Claim of Purshotum Modec, included in Mr. Remington's but not in Mr. Willoughby's Statement	„ 2,599	4	0
§ Total..	Rs. 1,32,333	4	0
Expected to be paid off this year....	„ 54,000	0	0
Balance remaining due..	Rs. 78,333	4	0

year, including the whole of the *military expenses due to the British Government, †interest amounting to Rupees 1,41,045-9-9, and ‡fresh loans contracted to the extent of Rs. 2,06,606-0-9.

44. Rs. 1,32,333-4-0§

will still, however, remain due to private creditors; but a surplus of about Rs. 54,000 will be available, at the close of the

year, for the part liquidation of this sum. The anticipated surplus of about Rs. 70,000 in 1849-50, will nearly meet the balance of about Rs. 78,333 remaining due.

45. From 1822-23 to 1828-29 inclusive, the productive parts of the country were farmed to a banker named Khandas Wagjee; from 1829-30 to 1832-33 inclusive, the State was managed by Purboodas Bukshee; from 1833-34 to 1839-40, the principal districts were farmed by Gopal Rao Myral; and since that period the Raja has administered his own affairs.

46. I have annexed statements showing the revenues realized during those periods, and the sums applied to the liquidation of debts, with other particulars.

47. During the first period of eight years, up to 1829-30, the revenues averaged Rs. 2,21,220, and the payments on account of debt Rs. 77,222.

47A. In the four years of the Bukshee's management, the realizations averaged Rs. 1,76,361, and the payment for debt Rs. 22,575. It was found necessary to raise considerable loans during this period, whilst large private debts were contracted in the Raja's name in excess of his maintenance.

48. During the seven years of Gopal Rao Myral's farm, the revenues averaged Rs. 2,24,633, and the liquidation of debt Rs. 42,845.

49. In the course of the last nine years, under the Raja's management, the receipts have averaged Rs. 2,06,409, and the payments for debt Rs. 26,508.

50. It will be observed that the revenues reached their highest point during Gopal Rao Myral's farm, and their lowest under the Bukshee's management. The averages shown by the Raja are not very favourable, and little doubt exists that the revenues shown in his accounts were considerably less than those actually raised.

51. The whole of the Raja's public debts have, however, been discharged; and I have detailed the mode in which I think those of a private nature can be provided for. Rajpeepla may thus be pronounced almost free from embarrassment.

52. The number of cases in which I was called upon to interfere, wherein the Raja, the people, and the farmers were concerned, detained my camp for more than a month at Nandod; and my nomination to an appointment elsewhere, prevented my accomplishing the design I had formed of moving through the Rajpeepla districts with the view of acquiring further information regarding the affairs of the State. But I feel little regret on this account, as it appears to me that enough is already known, and because what I saw convinced me that it was more necessary to quiet than to excite the minds of the people.

53. All the inquiries I have made, induce me to rely on the accuracy of the information supplied to Government by Mr. Mansfield. I do not think, however, that on the whole the farms have proved detrimental. The revenues have greatly improved under them; cultivation has increased; and I believe that, even though oppressed, the people have benefited by the plenty caused by stimulated production. The resources of the country are susceptible of greater development, but they appear to be in a comparatively flourishing condition.

54. I am glad to be able to say that I found Verisaljee ready to attend to my advice in closing farms that worked ill, and in adopting other suggestions I made.

55. The Raja having, however, largely drawn upon the resources of his country beyond his fixed allowance, and having, in so doing, infringed the arrangement made by Government, we might perhaps feel free to adopt our own plans for the future management of this Principality; but I think that the Raja's conduct should be viewed indulgently, and with regret rather than censure.

56. The low scale at which we fixed his maintenance ; the temptations that offered for the evasion of our restrictions ; and the indirect interference we exercised through four Karkoons, produced the fruits that were, perhaps, to be expected from our measures—misappropriation and misunderstanding.

57. The inhabitants of Rājpeela unquestionably desire the rule of the British ; but I presume Government do not consider that a sufficient reason to set aside the Raja's management. Sequestration would be a harsh measure, and one that, under present circumstances, does not appear necessary.

58. The proposition to sequester a part of the Principality deserves consideration. It would be viewed as a boon by the people, and as less objectionable by the Raja than entire attachment. Should this course be preferred, the part of the country adjoining the Gaekwar territory should be assumed, since the inhabitants of the districts bordering on British territory have an easier escape from tyranny. The measure would probably, however, be deemed a penalty by the Raja, which he would ever intrigue to remove. It would, besides, impose additional labour on the Political Agent, whose duties are already sufficiently onerous.

59. The last course noticed by Government, that of appointing a Minister to manage the State in communication with the Raja, appears to me open to many objections. It would be a punishment to the Raja, whilst it would be extremely difficult to find a person proof against the temptations that such a position would offer. The measure would be nearly allied to that of total sequestration, for a Minister of our nomination would be viewed as our instrument, and the weight and responsibility of the administration would thus be thrown on the British Government.

60. The first measure suggested by Government, that of committing to the Raja the administration of his own affairs, appears to me the most eligible ; for although Government consider the Raja's character somewhat opposed to such an arrangement, it seems deserving of experiment to govern the country with equity through his instrumentality. Verisaljee has expressed an earnest wish to be guided by the Political Agent's advice, and although his professions may have been the dictates of fear, it may yet be politic to treat them as if they were uttered in sincerity.

61. Should Government decide on adopting this course, they might, I think, express their sorrow at the little gratitude evinced by the Raja to the British Government, that placed him in possession of Rājpeela and rescued it from ruin ; they might warn him that the resources of the country, as they existed in 1822-23, will be held answerable for his obligations for which Government deem themselves responsible ; that no alienation made since then to his Ranees, or others, will be respected ; that public must take precedence of all private claims ; and that any severity exercised towards those who have

brought their grievances to the notice of the Political Agent will be visited with the severest displeasure of Government. This course would remove the evils of divided authority, and leave the vices of the Raja's management to work their own cure in showing their ruinous consequences, should the Political Agent's remonstrances fail to remove them; for it would still, I think, be the duty of that officer to watch over the Raja's proceedings, and to tender his advice in a manner least calculated to weaken that Chief's authority.

62. Verisaljee complains with some reason that the absence of the accounts of Rajpeepla kept by Purboodas Bukshee and the different farmers who managed the country, has caused him much embarrassment. He has expressed an intention of drawing up Cullumbundees (detailed statements showing the tenures, usages, responsibilities, &c. &c.) of each village, in order that the oppressions on the part of the local officers, and evasions on that of the people, may be checked.

63. The Raja has complained with bitterness of the presence of four Karkoons in his territory: and, indeed, the number appears to be more than necessary. Two might be sufficient (for the purpose, chiefly, of keeping the Bheels in check), one of whom might be stationed at Waree, and the other at or near Sagbarra.

64. They would probably be the means of bringing to light crimes that have as yet escaped detection; they would strengthen the Raja's authority over the almost independent parts of his territory, and promote the security of the British frontier.

65. The Raja is willing that all the Bheel villages that have not as yet furnished hereditary security, should be required to do so in communication with the Political Agent. Officers stationed at the places I have named, might accomplish that object gradually, and without alarming those suspicious and turbulent classes.

66. I have noted various lands and villages, that appear to have been alienated by the Raja and his officers in recent times, without authority from the superior State.

67. Mr. Willoughby, in his report to the Resident at Baroda, dated 19th January 1822, gave full particulars of the resources of Rajpeepla at that period, and of the quantity of land and the number of villages alienated. The accompaniment to that report, giving details of those lands and villages, is not on my records, and was not probably forwarded to the Government of Bombay. The particulars that appear to have been collected at that time were doubtless deposited among the records; and as it is of great importance that they should be preserved to check unauthorised alienations, and as other papers of consequence, relating to the earlier transactions of this office, are wanting, I had the honour to address a letter to the Acting Resident at

Baroda, on the 13th January 1849, No. 29, requesting him to allow one of his own clerks, with one from my office, to arrange and separate the Residency from the Rewa Kanta records. It is to be feared that some important papers may be found missing, as the removal of the records to and from Ahmedabad and Baroda, caused, I have understood, many documents to be lost in the River Mahee.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. OGILVY, Political Agent Rewa Kanta.

Baroda, 13th April 1849.

No. 1.

Financial Statement of Rajppeepla, from 1821-22 to 1828-29 inclusive, whilst under Mr. Willoughby's superintendence.

Years.	Amount of Revenues realized.	Balance of the last year.	Amount Borrowed from the Pottdar.	Amount Borrowed from others.	Total.	Amount of Expenses.	Amount Repaid to the Pottdar.	Amount Paid to other Creditors.	Gackwar Debt.	Balance Remaining in favour of the State.	Total.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
A. D.	Sum-										
1821-22	1878	2,02,083 13 0	....	15,565 1 9	2,17,648 14 9	92,648 14 9	....	....	1,25,000 0 0	....	2,77,648 14 9
1822-23	1879	1,56,610 1 3	....	33,751 4 9	1,90,361 6 0	1,55,771 8 3	15,565 1 9	....	19,024 12 0	....	1,90,361 6 0
1823-24	1880	1,09,153 5 3	....	31,748 11 6	2,30,902 0 9	1,76,149 12 0	33,751 4 9	....	21,001 0 0	....	2,30,902 0 9
1824-25	1881	1,09,865 1 6	....	31,457 6 0	2,31,322 7 6	1,55,572 12 0	31,748 11 6	....	44,001 0 0	....	2,31,322 7 6
1825-26	1882	2,43,365 2 9	....	18,655 11 3	2,62,020 14 0	1,65,563 8 0	31,457 6 0	....	65,000 0 0	....	2,62,020 14 0
1826-27	1883	2,59,484 8 6	....	3,046 6 9	2,62,530 15 3	1,68,875 4 0	18,655 11 3	....	75,000 0 0	....	2,62,530 15 3
1827-28	1884	2,71,364 8 6	....	....	2,71,364 8 6	1,67,466 13 0	3,046 6 9	....	95,000 0 0	5,851 4 9	2,76,364 8 6
1828-29	1885	2,37,834 15 6	5,851 4 9	12,474 8 9	2,56,160 13 0	1,69,985 13 0	....	18,000 0 0	68,225 0 0	....	2,56,160 13 0
Total..		17,69,761 8 3	5,851 4 9	1,46,699 2 9	19,22,311 15 9	12,51,984 5 0	1,34,224 10 0	18,000 0 0	5,12,251 12 0	5,851 4 9	19,82,311 15 9
Average..		2,21,220 3 0½									

Amount liquidatedRs. 6,64,476 6 0

Amount borrowed „ 1,46,699 2 9

Net amount liquidatedRs. 5,17,777 3 3

Average..... 8) 64,722 2 4

Detailed accounts for this year are not forthcoming. This amount is supposed to be borrowed from the Pottdar.

On account of private debt.

(Signed) T. OGILVY, Political Agent.

Financial Statement of Rajpepla, from 1829-30 to 1832-33 inclusive, while under the Bukshee's kutcha management.

Years.	Amount of Revenues realized.		Balance of the last year.		Amount Borrowed from the Poddar.		Amount Borrowed from others.		Total.		Amount of Expenses.		Amount Repaid to the Poddar.		Amount Paid to other Creditors.		Gaekwar's Debt.		Balance Remaining in favour of the State.		Total.					
	A. D.	Sum-vut.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.	Rs.	a. p.				
1829-30	1886	2,14,736	9	6	....	18,326	0	0	....	2,33,062	9	6	1,60,737	4	0	18,325	5	6	45,000	0	....	2,33,062	9	6
1830-31	1887	1,98,694	8	9	1,98,694	8	9	1,70,782	10	0	18,326	0	0	9,585	14	9	1,98,694	8	9
1831-32	1888	1,66,754	3	0	....	53,463	2	3	....	2,29,803	4	0	1,44,803	4	0	....	....	....	85,000	0	....	2,29,803	4	0
1832-33	1889	1,25,260	2	3	....	75,819	4	0	Gopal Rao.	3,21,081	6	3	1,29,821	4	0	53,463	2	3	1,37,797	0	....	3,21,081	6	3
Total..		9,05,445	7	6	9,585	14	9	1,47,608	6	3	1,20,002	0	0	9,82,641	12	6	15,144	6	0	90,114	7	9	2,67,797	0	0	
Average...		1,76,361	5	10½																						

N. B.—In Sumvut 1887 Rs. 40,000, and in Sumvut 1888 Rs. 25,000, were only paid on account of Gaekwar's tribute.

Amount liquidated..... Rs. 3,57,911 7 9

Amount borrowed „ 2,67,610 6 3

Net balance liquidated Rs. 90,301 1 6

Average..... 4) 22,575 4 4½

* This includes Rs. 40,000 on account of Gaekwar's tribute.

† This includes Rs. 25,000 on account of Gaekwar's tribute.

‡ This includes arrears of tribute for Sumvut 1888.

(Signed) T. OGILVY, Political Agent.

No. 3.

Financial Statement of Rajppeepla, from 1833-34 to 1839-40 inclusive, whilst under Farm to Gopal Rao Myral.

Years.	Amount of Revenues realized.	Balance of the last year.	Amount Borrowed from the Potdar.	Amount Borrowed from others.	Total.	Amount of Expenses.	Amount Repaid to the Potdar.	Amount Paid to other Creditors.	Gakwar's Debt.	Balance Remaining in favour of the State.	Total.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
A. D.	Sum-										
1833-34	1830	2,36,810 8 0	63,259 12 0	....	3,02,070 4 0	1,74,609 12 0	89,665 8 0	20,000 0 0	17,765 0 0	....	3,02,070 4 0
1834-35	1831	1,47,299 4 0	29,701 0 0	....	1,77,000 4 0	1,77,000 4 0	.....	.....	.....	....	1,77,000 4 0
1835-36	1832	2,39,989 8 0	....	....	2,39,989 8 0	1,75,288 8 0	29,701 0 0	35,000 0 0	.....	....	2,39,989 8 0
1836-37	1833	2,58,167 0 0	....	....	2,58,167 0 0	1,48,765 0 0	27,400 0 0	82,002 0 0	.....	....	2,58,167 0 0
1837-38	1834	2,40,247 7 0	11,948 0 0	....	2,52,195 7 0	1,87,894 15 0	41,900 0 0	23,091 8 0	.....	....	2,52,195 7 0
1838-39	1835	1,83,824 11 0	6,028 0 0	....	1,89,852 11 0	1,77,904 11 0	11,948 0 0	.....	.....	....	1,89,852 11 0
1839-40	1836	2,66,093 6 6	....	....	2,66,093 6 6	2,31,049 11 0	6,028 0 0	.....	26,692 11 6	2,323 0 0	2,66,093 6 6
Total..		15,72,431 12 6	1,12,936 12 0	....	16,85,368 8 6	12,72,512 13 0	2,05,951 8 0	1,60,093 8 0	44,487 11 6	2,323 0 0	16,85,368 8 6
Average..		2,24,633 1 9½									

Amount liquidated.....Rs. 4,10,532 11 6
Amount borrowed....." 1,12,936 12 0

Net amount liquidated.....Rs. 2,97,595 15 6
Balance in hand....." 2,323 0 0

(Signed) T. OGILVY,
Political Agent.

Average..... 7) 42,845 9 0
• New loan.

Financial Statement of Rajppeepla, from 1840-41 to 1848-49 inclusive, whilst under the Raja's own management.

Years.	Amount of Revenues realized.	Balance of the last year.	Amount Borrowed from the Pottar.	Amount Borrowed from others.	Total.	Amount of Expenses.	Amount Repaid to the Pottar.	Amount Paid to other Creditors.	Gaskwar Debt.	Balance Remaining in favour of the State.	Total.
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
A. D.											
Sum- vut.											
1840-41	2,38,488 6 3	2,323 0 0	....	....	2,40,811 6 3	1,98,029 14 0	....	....	26,692 8 0	16,089 0 3	2,40,811 6 3
1841-42	2,14,151 3	9,16,089 0 0	....	....	2,30,240 4 0	1,99,985 0 0	....	5,456 4 0	Military Expenses. 15,000 0 0	9,799 0 0	2,30,240 4 0
1842-43	2,28,146 4 3	9,799 0 0	....	....	2,27,945 4 3	1,93,196 0 0	....	....	15,000 0 0	29,749 4 3	2,37,945 4 3
1843-44	1,60,585 9	9,29,749 4 0	....	....	1,99,334 14 0	1,80,334 14 0	....	....	10,000 0 0	....	1,99,334 14 0
1844-45	1,74,179 9 0	.....	....	....	1,74,179 9 0	1,54,174 11 6	....	....	20,000 0 0	4 13 6	1,74,179 9 0
1845-46	1,92,985 0 1	.....	....	....	1,92,985 0 1	1,77,150 2 6	....	....	10,000 0 0	5,834 13 7	1,92,985 0 1
1846-47	2,04,236 5 6	5,834 13 7	....	....	2,10,071 3 1	1,70,841 3 4	....	....	30,000 0 0	229 15 9	2,10,071 3 1
1847-48	2,12,965 3 6	229 15 9	....	....	2,13,195 3 3	1,70,397 4 0	....	....	20,000 0 0	22,797 15 3	2,13,195 3 3
1848-49	2,24,570 9	9,23,797 15 3	....	....	2,47,374 9 0	1,50,312 0 0	....	....	34,666 10 8	53,395 14 4	2,47,374 9 0
Total..	18,59,314 3	10,86,823 1 1	....	....	19,46,137 4	11,16,214 21 1 6	....	5,456 4 0	2,01,359 2 8	1,97,900 13 0	19,46,137 4 11
Average..	2,06,590 7 6										

Amount Liquidated	Rs. 1,72,148 12 0
Balance in hand	66,431 15 3
	Rs. 2,38,580 11 3
Average.....	9) 26,508 15 5

Average amount of Revenues realized during the whole period...Rs. 2,07,201 4 6
 Total amount of debts liquidated up to this time " 12,12,501 10 11
 Giving an annual average of Rs. 43,303 0 0
 And leaving a balance of about " 53,395 14 4

* Estimated, but likely to prove correct.

(Signed) T. OGILVY, Political Agent.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To Major L. BROWN, Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta.*

Dated 30th November 1849.

SIR,—I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Ogilvy's letter with enclosures, No. 245, dated the 13th April last, reporting the results of the interference exercised by the British Government, during the last twenty-eight years, in the internal management of the Rajpeeppla State.

2. In reply, I am desired to state that these results, as a whole, and considering the state of the country and its finances when the British Government commenced its interference in 1821, appear to be satisfactory, and that His Lordship in Council will not therefore dwell on those parts of the subject which are open to animadversion.

3. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is satisfied, from the above results, that the State can now, if moderately well managed, fully meet all its liabilities without being subjected to any minute interference, which, as no longer being absolutely necessary, would be vexatious to the Chief, and might eventually be embarrassing to this Government.

4. As the balance of the claim of Rs. 1,55,195-5-4 (the reduced amount due to the British Government on account of military aid) can without inconvenience, as stated by Mr. Ogilvy, be paid off this year, the Right Honorable the Governor in Council considers that this item may very properly be now cleared off.

5. The old debts, I am instructed to add, should next be placed in train of liquidation. Of these, Government has, in Mr. Chief Secretary Willoughby's letter No. 5321, dated the 24th November 1845, passed conditional decisions on claims amounting to Rs. 97,832-4-0; while Mr. Ogilvy is of opinion that Government should interfere in procuring the payment of debts amounting to Rs. 1,32,333-4-0.

6. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council does not, however, consider it at present necessary to discuss these claims; but deems it sufficient to request that you will, under the orders contained in Mr. Secretary Townsend's letter No. 1780, dated the 1st June 1844, require the Raja of Rajpeeppla to arrange for the payment of such debts as are justly due, giving preference to those formerly decided to be worthy of the interference of Government.

7. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council entertains no doubt that you will be able to induce the Raja to come to such a settlement as the creditors, under the known aversion of Government to interfere, will be willing to accept.

8. In the opinion of Government, arrangements for these payments by the Raja may be easily combined with such an increase in the appropriation of revenues for his own necessary expenditure as may be requisite; for His Lordship in Council would be unwilling to commit to the Raja the management of his revenues, with a certainty that a nominal maintenance of the same allowance as hitherto allotted to him, would force him to have recourse to the same underhand methods of obtaining money as he has lately practised.

9. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is now pleased to direct that the administration of the affairs of Rajpeepla be made over to the Raja, with a warning according to the tenor of the 61st paragraph of Mr. Ogilvy's letter, couched in courteous terms.

10. With reference to the 63rd paragraph of Mr. Ogilvy's letter, I am desired to state that His Lordship in Council authorises the retention for the present of the two Karkoons therein alluded to, in order to aid the Raja in maintaining the Police of his districts which border on those of the Honorable Company. It is not improbable that, as the Raja gains experience, Government will in no long time be able to remove them.

11. In conclusion I am directed to state, that the documents alluded to in the last paragraph of Mr. Ogilvy's letter as having been drawn up by Mr. Wiloughby, are on the records of Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. MALET, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 30th November 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From Major L. BROWN, Political Agent, Rewa Kanta,

To A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 19th April 1850.

SIR,—I have the honour to report, for the information of Government, that I proceeded to Nandod, the capital of Rajpeepla, on the 26th ultimo, for the purpose of carrying out the instructions contained in your letter No. 5153, of the 30th November last, directing me, under the orders contained in Mr. Secretary Townsend's letter No. 1980, of the 1st June 1844, to require the Raja of Rajpeepla to arrange for the payment of such debts as were justly due against his State, giving preference to those formerly decided to be worthy of the interference of Government, and also make over the administration of the affairs of Rajpeepla to him, with a warning according to the tenor of the 61st paragraph of Mr. Ogilvy's letter No. 245, of the 13th April 1849.

2. The Raja having visited me the following day, I made known to him my instructions and the wishes of Government, and informed him that directly I had examined the Potdar's accounts with his Karbaree, I should be prepared to give him over charge of his State, and that I hoped in the mean time he would come to some early arrangement with the old creditors of his State, whose claims the British Government had considered it necessary to interfere in; and likewise, that he would also gradually liquidate such other debts as were justly due.

3. He at once replied he would do so without delay, begging me at the same time to send the creditors, who were with my camp, to him, when, if he had any difficulty in coming to an arrangement with them, he would be guided entirely by my advice; he also promised to gradually liquidate any other debts against his State.

4. I had also a long conversation with the Raja on other matters regarding the affairs of his State, in which he seemed to take much interest. He talked freely and openly on all points; he said I was aware that he had lately been visiting most of his districts to make himself perfectly acquainted with the people under him, the management and collection of the revenue, and all police matters; and concluded by saying he should be most happy for any advice I could give him. He left me impressed with the idea that he was able to manage his own affairs, and I trust I am not deceived in giving it as my opinion that the Government will not again have to interfere in the management of Rajpeepla.

5. Agreeably to the 5th para. of your letter under reply, the old debts for which Government considered it necessary to interfere were as follows:—

1. The heirs of Lalla Chooneelal of Surat	Rs. 60,901 0 0
2. Ditto of Purshotum Ruttunram.....	„ 2,599 4 0
3. Modee Bhocun Madowjee	„ 2,176 0 0
4. Purboodas Vundrawundas.....	„ 32,156 0 0
	<u>Rs. 97,832 4 0</u>

6. Independently of these, Mr. Ogilvy, in the 27th para. of his report, adds another debt due to the sons of Abdoola Jumadar, amounting to Rs. 34,501, which he thought Government might wish to interfere in. As this claim was settled before I reached Nandod, and an acquittance given, I shall not again allude to it.

7. I have said the Raja left me promising to settle these debts. This was on the 27th March; by the 1st April every one of these creditors was satisfied. Translations of their acknowledgments, that they have no further claims on the Raja, are herewith forwarded for the information of Government. It will be observed, the Raja and creditors by mutual agreement compromised the claims.

Enclosures Nos. 3, 4,
5, and 6.

8. The creditors received the amount of their claims and passed acknowledgments in my presence, expressing themselves satisfied. As the translations of the acknowledgments fully show the compromise each agreed to, it is not necessary for me to enter into explanation regarding them.

9. On the 1st April, having closed the Potdar's accounts, I addressed the accompanying letter (Enclosure No. 1) to the Raja, making over the management of his affairs to him, as also the balance in the Potdar's hands, amounting to Rs. 15,794-7-4; the accounts, when compared with those of the Raja, having been found quite correct.

10. It is now necessary to make some remarks on this communication. I was directed to warn the Raja in courteous terms: this I found much difficulty in doing, when I had to tell him it was proved he had violated the condition under which he had before been allowed to manage his affairs, by intercepting the revenues and appropriating them to his own use, or, in others words, furnishing accounts to Government which he knew were incorrect; but I trust the tone of my letter will not be considered discourteous.

11. In the 2nd para. of my letter, I have required the Raja to provide for the punctual payment of those public liabilities for which the British Government is responsible, to prevent any misconceptions hereafter. In his reply, it will be seen the Raja promises to do so through the Political Agent. These liabilities are as follows:—

Gaekwar tribute	Rs. 65,001 0 0
Allowance to the sons of Purboodas Bukshee	„ 5,600 0 0
Ditto to Soorujkoor and the family of the late	
Purtab Sing.....	„ 4,800 0 0
Annual stipend to the family of the Bheel burnt to	
death.....	„ 50 0 0
Salary to two Karkoons	„ 1,200 0 0
	<hr/>
	Rs. 76,651 0 0

12. In my 3rd para. (being guided by the 5th and 6th paras. of your letter of instructions to Mr. Ogilvy, No. 4716, of the 9th November 1848) I have informed the Raja it may be necessary for him to furnish satisfactory security for these payments, or assign a portion of his resources equal to the amount, but that I would refer the point to Government and inform him hereafter; thereby leaving the question open. On this subject I beg I may be furnished with instructions. If I may be allowed to give an opinion, I would beg respectfully to say that there does not appear to be any present necessity to require such security. This fine Principality is in itself sufficient security for all such liabilities, or, in the words of the Raja himself, "should he fail to pay, himself and his State are at the disposal of the Government."

13. With reference to the 4th para. of instructions, I have already reported in my letter to the Acting Resident, Baroda, (copy of which was forwarded to Government) that the Raja had paid off the whole of the balance due to the British Government on account of military expenses; but since then I have been favoured with a copy of your communication to the Acting Resident, dated the 3rd December last, No. 5233, intimating that as these expenses were on account of a detachment of regular troops, the amount must be recovered in Company's Rupees, whereas the instalments were received from the Raja in Baroda Rupees.

14. I called on the Raja to do so, but only received his reply at Nandod, translation of which is attached (Enclosure No. 7). When mentioning the subject to me in the course of conversation, he expressed a hope to be released from this claim, or at all events that he would be allowed five or seven years to pay it in, as he had so many other claims to settle. I respectfully hope the Government, if unable to release him from the claim, will comply with his request, and permit me to recover the amount from him by six or seven equal yearly instalments.

15. But, since my return to Baroda, I have, I believe, discovered that a small portion of these expenses were not incurred in the Company's currency, but that of Baroda; the Commissariat expenses for instance. Should this prove to be the case, there will be a reduction in the claim. The subject will hereafter be brought to the notice of Government by the Resident.

16. The other paras. of my letter require no explanation, except that measures will be taken to prevent the two Karkoons interfering in any way in the Raja's internal affairs; they are at present stationed, one at Nandod and the other at Waree.

17. The Raja's reply to this letter is plain and distinct on all points, and will, I hope, prove satisfactory to Government. He does not acknowledge having intercepted the revenues: but he forwards copies of acquittances from all the old creditors; acknowledges the public liabilities, and that they shall be regularly paid; that he had received the balances in the Potdar's hands; approves of the two Karkoons being kept up for police purposes only; and lastly promises to attend to the advice I have given him for the better management of his affairs and protection to his subjects.

18. During the past year the Chief has paid much attention to his affairs, which have been satisfactorily managed. His Bheel subjects have been very peaceable, particularly the wild tribes inhabiting the south-east part of Raj-peela. A few or none of the Raja's subjects petitioned against him during the time the Agent's camp was at Nandod.

19. Altogether I was very much pleased with my visit. I like the Chief, and think him a sensible man; his manners and address are very good. The

advice I gave him was received in a most friendly way, and he showed a great anxiety throughout to comply with every wish of the British Government.

20. There now only remains for me to settle his dispute with the old Potdar, agreeably to the instructions contained in your letter No. 5216, of the 1st December last. On this subject a separate report will hereafter be made. I am happy to say there is a hope of their coming to a settlement by compromise.

21. With reference to my 11th and 12th páras., I have much pleasure in reporting that all the public liabilities have been paid up to date.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) L. BROWN, Political Agent.

Rewa Kanta Agency, Baroda, 19th April 1850.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Translation of a letter from the Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta to the Raja of Rajpeepla, dated 1st April 1850.

After compliments. You are aware, that in consequence of the great falling off of the revenues of Rajpeepla, Mr. Mansfield and Mr. Ogilvy were directed by Government to institute an inquiry into the cause. These gentlemen did so, during the years 1848 and 1849, when it was discovered, after mature inquiry, that it was not occasioned from any serious falling off of the revenues, but in consequence of a considerable portion of the amount actually realized having been intercepted by you and appropriated to your own use, in violation of the condition under which the State was entrusted to your management. The Government, I am directed to say, have received this report with much sorrow, that you should have shown so little gratitude to that Government which placed you in possession of Rajpeepla and saved it from ruin. I am also to add, that the resources of your country, as they existed in A. D. 1822, Sumvut 1878, will be held answerable for such obligations as the Government deem themselves responsible for. Having performed this painful duty of making known to you the above sentiments of Government, it is with much pleasure I now inform you that the Government, not wishing to dwell on the past, have decided on viewing your acts of mismanagement with leniency, and have therefore directed me now to make over to you the administration of the affairs of your State, after requiring of you to arrange for the payment of such debts as are justly due by you to your different creditors, first of all providing for the old debts which stand recorded against you as follows :—

1. Heirs of Lalla Chooneelal of Surat	Rs. 60,901	0	0
2. Ditto of Purshotum Ruttunram	„ 2,599	4	0
3. Modée Bhookun Madowjee	„ 2,176	0	0
4. Purboodas Vundrawundas.....	„ 32,156	0	0

Rs. 97,832 4 0

On my arrival here a week ago, I made known to you, at a personal interview, the nature of these claims and the request of Government regarding them; and you at once replied that you would comply with them without delay. This you have now done I find, as your Karbaree has informed me the whole of these claims have been settled, which will, I am sure, give great satisfaction to Government, as it has to me, inasmuch as that what you promised you have performed. You have, therefore, only to forward me copies of the acknowledgments of the claimants.

2. In making over the State to you, it will be necessary for you to provide for the punctual annual and monthly payments of those public liabilities for which the British Government is responsible. They are as follows:—

Gaekwar tribute	Rs. 65,001	0	0
Nemnook to Purboodass Bukshee.....	„ 5,600	0	0
Ditto to Soorujkoor and Purtab Sing	„ 4,800	0	0
Payment to the family of the Bheel burnt to death. „	50	0	0
Salary to two Karkoons	„ 1,200	0	0

Rs. 76,651 0 0

Besides these sums, any other payments you have been in the habit of making, you should continue to pay as usual. There is also a claim by the British Government of Rs. 22,003-11-3 for exchange in the amount of military expenses incurred by the British Government in protecting your State, the instalments having been received from you in Baroda Rupees, whereas the expenses were incurred in Company's Rupees. On this subject I wrote you on the 3rd ultimo, requesting an early settlement. In your reply to this, I have to request you will name an early date.

3. For the punctual liquidation of these public claims, it is the opinion of Government that you should either furnish such security as will be approved of, or assign a portion of your resources sufficient for their payment. I will hereafter inform you which mode is to be adopted, after I have referred the point to Government.

4. You are aware, that when Mr. Ogilvy closed the guaranteed Potdar's bank last year, the balance of the revenues of your State, then in hand, was placed in the hands of the banker Gokul Narundas of Nandod on your security, on the condition that no payments were to be made by him without the Political Agent's authority, and that nothing would be charged to the State,

he receiving the revenues from you and disbursing on the authority of the Political Agent. His accounts have this day been examined in presence of your Karbaree, Dhuneshwur Wisswunath, and, after showing a balance in favour of the State amounting to Rs. 15,794-7-4, which has been found correct on comparing with your State accounts, he has been directed to make over the same to you, and finally close his account with this Agency. I shall require an acknowledgment and receipt from you in full to this effect, to forward to Government.

5. Formerly four Karkoons were appointed by Government to assist you in police matters, to be paid Rs. 50 each per mensem. Government having reconsidered the subject, has decided on reducing the number to two, which are still to be kept up. They are merely to assist you in maintaining the peace of your frontiers bordering those of the Honorable Company, but are in no way to interfere in the internal affairs of your State.

6. In concluding this letter, I would beg to draw your attention to the necessity of increasing the prosperity of this fine Principality—a rich country, with few public liabilities. Cherish your subjects; prevent them being oppressed by your servants; let them have free access to you. As yet complaints of oppression have, I am sorry to say, been numerous and incessant to the different Agents. Do not attempt to increase your revenues at their expense, by making them pay more than they are able; endeavour to increase the revenues by increasing the population, and bringing more lands under cultivation. You have excellent examples for your guide in the adjoining Collectorates of Broach, Surat, and Khandesh, by which your country is surrounded. You asked me my advice on these matters the other day: I give it with pleasure, and will always be most happy to do so at any other time; for the way you have expressed yourself in all matters connected with the management of your State, the welfare of the people under you, and the exertions I have heard you have used lately to make yourself thoroughly acquainted with all your affairs by visiting all your districts, leads me to the strong hope that Government will never again have to interfere in the management of this fine State.

7. A separate letter will hereafter be addressed to you regarding the disputes existing between you and the late guaranteed Potdar.

(Signed) L. BROWN, Political Agent.

(True translation)

(Signed) L. BROWN, Political Agent.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Translation of a Communication from the Raja of Rajpeepla to the address of Major L. Brown, Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta, dated Sumvut 1906, Chuetr Wud 6th, corresponding with 3rd April 1850, in reply to his letter dated 1st April 1850.

A. C. I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 461, dated 1st April 1850, informing me of the results of the inquiries instituted by Messrs. Mansfield and Ogilvy, by the orders of Government, into the cause of the decrease in the revenues of this State; that it was not from any falling off of the revenues, but from my appropriating a considerable portion of it to my private use, the decrease was exhibited.

In reply, I beg to state that the above gentlemen must have formed their opinions from the misrepresentations of the four Karkoons placed in the districts of Rajpeepla, but I did not do so. With regard to the seven paragraphs of your letter, I have to state as follows :—

Herewith are forwarded the following four acquittance papers from creditors whose claims have been brought to a compromise by mutual understanding :—

1st.—Acquittance paper dated Sumvut 1906, Chuetr Wud 2nd, from Ishwurdas and Chutroobhoojdas, heirs of the late Lalla Chooneelal of Surat, who claimed Rs. 60,901.

2nd.—Ditto ditto dated Sumvut 1906, Chuetr Wud 5th, from Gokul and Baliram, heirs of Purshotum Ruttunram of Nandod, for their claims of Rs. 2,599-4-0.

3rd.—Ditto ditto dated Sumvut 1906, Chuetr Wud 6th, from Sivelal Bhoocondas, heir of Bhooeun Madowjee of Baroda, for a claim of Rs. 2,176.

4th.—Ditto ditto dated Sumvut 1906, Chuetr Wud 6th, from Muccundas and Geerdhurlal, heirs of Purboodas Vundrawundas of Sunkera, for a claim of Rs. 32,156.

You stated in the 2nd paragraph of your letter under acknowledgment, that as I was now entrusted with the sole management of the Rajpeepla State, I should provide for the punctual payments of the amount mentioned by you. In regard to this, I beg to say I will pay through the Political Agent the amount of tribute due to His Highness the Gackwar, according to the instalments fixed by Mr. Willoughby. The sums due to Soorujkoor and others will also be paid as usual. I will make no objections in paying these sums.

It is stated in the 3rd para. that it is the intention of Government that I should furnish satisfactory Nisha (security), or assign certain resources of the

State equal to the above amount due by me; but that you would again write to the Bombay Government on the subject, and communicate their wishes to me afterwards. In regard to this, I beg to say that the above sums would be punctually paid by me. Should I fail to do so, myself and my State would be at the disposal of the Sirkār. I hope you will, therefore, kindly write for me to Government.

It is stated in the 4th para. that Mr. Ogilvy last year closed the guaranteed Potdaree shop, and the balance in favour of the State was entrusted by my consent to Paruck Gokul Narundas of Nandod, with an agreement with him that he should receive the payments made by me, but no disbursements were to be made without the permission of the Political Agent. Further that the Paruck's accounts were compared by you with those of mine, and that it was found that a balance of Rs. 15,794-7-4 was in favour of the State; that this amount the Paruck had been directed to make over to me; that the accounts with the Paruck had been closed, and that I should forward a receipt to you when the amount is received by me. In regard to this, I beg to state that the balance in favour of the State remaining in the shop of Gokul Narundas has been duly received by me.

You state you have resolved to retain two Karkoons for the Police administration ~~my~~ my State, and to prevent disturbances taking place in my villages adjoining the British territory, and that they were not to interfere with the internal affairs of the State; their duty is merely to take care of the frontiers. This is very good, and I request you will strictly give warning to them accordingly.

With reference to the 6th para., you have been pleased to give me advice to pay great attention to the management of my State, to try and increase its prosperity, to protect my subjects, not to allow my servants to oppress them, and to permit them to have a free access to my presence to lay before me their grievances, &c. &c. &c. In regard to this, I beg to state that at present I act accordingly, and in future I shall pay much attention to this. I have no other person except you from whom I may ask the advice I require. I am under the sole protection and patronage of the British Government.

(True translation)

(Signed) L. BROWN, Political Agent.

From H. E. GOLDSMID, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To Major L. BROWN, Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta.

Dated 20th May 1850.

SIR,—I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, with enclosures, No. 145, dated the 19th ultimo, reporting on the affairs of Rajpeepla.

2. In reply, I am desired to communicate to you the gratification of his Lordship in Council at the mode in which the instructions of Government, contained in Mr. Chief Secretary Malet's letter No. 5153, dated the 30th November last, have been carried out by you.

3. It appears that the Raja of Rajpéepla has, under your advice, compromised with the creditors whose claim had been defined by Government, and that he has apparently in good faith resolved to act up to his engagements with Government.

4. With reference to the 12th paragraph of your letter, I am instructed to state, that it was not intended by Government to exact security from the Raja for the due performance of the pecuniary portion of these arrangements, as the State is answerable for them; you are accordingly requested to intimate to the Raja that Government will not put him to the trouble and expense of providing special security for the same.

5. The Right Honorable the Governor in Council will postpone consideration of the question relative to the exchange on the claim on account of the charges of the Detachment, until the receipt of the report from the Resident at Baroda, alluded to in the 15th paragraph of your letter.

6. I am, in conclusion, desired to inform you, that your report on the subject of the former Potdar's claim, promised in the 20th paragraph of your letter, will be awaited by Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID, Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 20th May 1850.

SETTLEMENTS,
BASED ON A SYSTEM OF CONCILIATION,

EFFECTED BY

MR. J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

DURING THE YEARS 1822 TO 1826.

FOR THE RECLAMATION, FUTURE GOOD CONDUCT, AND
BETTER TREATMENT OF THE PREVIOUSLY TURBULENT
BHEELS, NAIKRAS, AND MEHWASSEES RESIDING IN THE
RAJPEEPLA, TULLUKWARA, WUSRAYEE, PUNCHI MAHAL,
AND OTHER DISTRICTS;

AND

PROVIDING FOR THE REDRESS OF ANY GRIEVANCES UNDER WHICH
THEY MAY HAVE BEEN SUFFERING UNDER NATIVE RULE.

Extracts Paras. 26 to 31 from a letter from J. Williams, Esq., Resident at Baroda, to J. P. Willoughby, Esq., Assistant to the Resident at Baroda, dated the 28th October 1821.

26. A considerable part of Rajpeepla being almost entirely inhabited by Bheels, a caste notorious for their plundering and turbulent habits, it will be necessary to adopt some plan, as conciliatory as can be chosen, to restrain these, and make them, if possible, a peaceable and industrious class of society.

27. With this view, you will be pleased to report the mode by which the Rajas of Rajpeepla, in its state of prosperity, were accustomed to manage them, and to enforce obedience to their commands; as it would perhaps be expedient to adopt a plan grounded something upon similar principles as the one formerly in use, with such modifications, however, as Government in its wisdom may deem proper to direct.

28. The communication you held when last in Rajpeepla with several of the principal Bheel Wussawas of the country, will prove of considerable advantage to you in performing this part of your duty; and I would recommend your taking every opportunity of encouraging and cultivating as intimate an acquaintance with this class of people as possible, conceiving that such will eventually tend to restore peace to the country, by withdrawing them from the plundering and lawless occupations many are now pursuing, to that of cultivation and the peaceful arts.

29. As many of the Bheel Chiefs allege in excuse for their crimes that they have been unjustly deprived of certain rights and privileges, you will, when time will allow you, inquire and report upon these; and I have no doubt, in all cases where they are able to substantiate them, Government will think right to confirm and secure them in the possession of them.

30. Amongst this latter class is, I believe, the notorious freebooter Kooer Wussawa, whose claims, if he consent to submit to the arbitration, you will investigate; should he, however, refuse his assent to the above equitable proposition, you will renew the endeavours you made last year to surprise him and subdue him by force of arms, which you may have an opportunity

of effecting by means of the detachment which will be sent with you, aided by the assistance of the troops now in the service of the Raja.

31. You will also be pleased to address a letter, in the terms you have suggested, to the person alluded to in your memorandum, by name Bajee Daimen, residing in the district of Tulluckwara; and after investigating the claims he advances against the Rajpeepla State, report the same, with your opinion upon them, for the ultimate decision of Government.

SETTLEMENTS EFFECTED BY MR. WILLOUGHBY, IN THE
YEARS 1823 AND 1824, WITH THE TURBULENT BHEEL
CHIEFS RESIDING IN THE RAJPEEPLA DISTRICTS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 21st January 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, dated the 9th instant, reporting the satisfactory intelligence of Kooer Wussawa having repaired to his camp under personal Bhandaree, and handing up the draft of an agreement he proposes to endeavour to effect with that Chieftain.

2. For the nature of the terms of this arrangement, I beg leave to refer the Honorable the Governor in Council to Mr. Willoughby's letter, in which they are remarked upon in detail; and as they appear well calculated to ensure the objects in view, I have issued the necessary instructions to that gentleman to proceed without delay to endeavour to carry them into effect.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 21st January 1822.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 9th January 1822.

SIR,—In pursuance of the directions contained in your letter dated the 28th of October last, having sent a letter to Kooer Wussawa inviting him to repair to my camp, for the purpose of settling any rights at present unjustly withheld from him, upon condition of his relinquishing the predatory mode of life he had so long pursued, it is with great satisfaction that I am enabled to report the invitation has been accepted, and that that person arrived at Nanded on the 6th instant.

2. The reclaiming this Chief, if possible, from his present pursuits, would doubtless tend, more than any other measure, to the restoration and preservation of the peace of Rajpeepla, the greater part of the Hill Purgunas being now deserted through fear of his depredations and power, and will necessarily continue so until an efficient check has been placed upon both.

3. With this view, therefore, in an interview I yesterday had with him, I was as mild and conciliatory in my language as the nature of his situation would admit; and I must confess, from the manner in which he conducted himself, I am not without hope that he may be persuaded to submit to any equitable settlement proposed to him. He expressed himself grateful for the pardon which I informed him would be granted for his past offences, provided he avoided them in future. He was very respectful and even submissive in his demeanour, and stated in extenuation of his faults that he had been fighting for his bread, which he had much rather obtain peaceably than by such an uncertain and precarious mode, and concluded by stating he would give me a memorandum of his claims as soon as he could prepare it. Kooer Wussawa is rather a good looking man for his caste, like most of them rather short in stature, and now about 26 years of age. He spent a considerable part of the last rains with his father-in-law, Ryesingjee, in the village of Warree, but has lately been residing in the village of Kapurpoonjee in the Thawah Purguna. He has not lately made any of those plundering excursions which have rendered him so notorious, although it was reported to me that he had one in meditation when I arrived at Nandod in November last, which, however, was not carried into execution. He has not now more than twenty Sindians in his service, a circumstance probably to be attributed to the diminution of his resources to retain them, from the long period which either inclination or want of power has induced him to remain inactive. He is attended in his present visit by a Sindian Jumadar, of the name of Buruk, who has been in his service for five or six years, and about twenty other Sindians, with thirty or forty of his Bheel followers.

4. Although I am at present unable, from want of the proper materials, and from my time having been as yet exclusively occupied in inquiring into the resources and future expenses of the Rajppeepla State, to give a general report upon the important subject of the management of the Bheel population of this district, yet the importance of a speedy settlement being made with Kooer induces me, without delay, to hand up for your consideration and approbation the following terms, which appear to me to be the most expedient that can be offered to him:—

- I. A general amnesty to be granted to him for his past offences.
- II. A promise that all his rights shall be investigated, and such as are found to be just, confirmed.
- III. That he should be required to furnish perpetual security for his future good behaviour.
- IV. That he should be required to dismiss from his service all Sindians and other Seebundy now in his employ.

V. That measures will be adopted to put an end to the feud now existing between Kooer Wussawa and Chamar, the son of the late Jeewa Wussawa, and their respective followers.

VI. That he will, in future, be obedient to the orders of the Raja of Rajpepla, perform him the usual services, and act in conformity with his wishes.

VII. That he will cultivate his lands and pay to the Raja whatever may be assessed upon them as the revenue justly due to the latter, and help to preserve the peace and tranquillity of the district in which he resides.

5. Such appear to me to be the terms which are most likely to ensure the object in view; but I shall await your instructions before I propose them, as you may deem it necessary to make modifications in them. The two first require no remark, as no permanent settlement can reasonably be expected to take place unless they are granted.

6. The 3rd Article will be the most difficult to ratify, not perhaps so much from Kooer's disinclination to accede to it, but from the great difficulty which exists in finding a fit person to take upon himself the responsibility of becoming security for the good conduct of a person of such notoriety as Kooer. The only person that occurs to me likely to be persuaded to do so is Ryeesingjee, his father-in-law, than whom no one appears to be more fit. He is of a peaceful and rather timorous disposition, and his relationship to Kooer must give him some influence over his acts and conduct, which others differently situated do not possess. I must however add, that Ryeesingjee is very much averse to becoming security for his son-in-law, and it is this aversion which has deterred him from accepting an invitation I some time since sent to him to pay me a visit; and I am credibly informed his present intention is to delay doing so until Kooer has been dismissed and has returned to his former place of abode. Still, however, I shall not fail to use my most strenuous efforts to endeavour to change his present purpose, and should I be successful in persuading him to visit me, to encourage him to undertake the responsibility in question. In the event, however, of my efforts proving unavailing, and in the event of Kooer being unable to obtain such security elsewhere as may be considered satisfactory, the only resource left appears to be to demand from him hostages for his good conduct, and for these to remain at Nanded for such a period as may be deemed necessary, or until the Raja's authority has been fully established in the mountainous districts of Rajpepla.

7. Kooer will doubtless object to a compliance with the provisions of the 4th Article; it appears, however, absolutely necessary that such should be insisted upon, and that all (with the exception perhaps of two or three Sindians whom he might be allowed to retain as personal attendants) the Seebundy in his service should be dismissed. With this view, measures will be taken to induce some of them, and particularly Buruk Jumadar,

voluntarily to resign their present service, upon a promise of being taken into that of the Raja's, which, from the superior inducements of the one over the other, it is likely will be accepted by the greater part of them.

8. The 5th Article appears also essentially necessary, and its object perhaps may easily be attained. It would appear, however, very advisable, that Chamar Wussawa should also be invited to repair to Nandod for this purpose, upon the propriety of which it is my intention to write to the Political Agent in Khandesh. His doing so would also present the best opportunity for investigating the claim for Koontee I am directed to inquire into in Mr. Wheler's letter dated the 29th of November last.

9. The two concluding Articles do not appear to require any observation, their tendency being obvious. I shall only, therefore, remark, that in the event of this arrangement being acceded to by Kooer, added to the measure of stationing a strong Thana in the heart of the district he inhabits, every hope may be entertained of his ceasing to be any longer the dread and terror of the peaceful inhabitants of this and its adjacent territories.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assistant Resident.

Camp Nandod, 9th January 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 31st January 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 21st of this month, forwarding Mr. Willoughby's report respecting Kooer Wussawa's arrival in his camp, and the agreement he proposes to effect with that Chieftain.

2. I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to inform you that these proceedings, abstractedly considered, seem very judicious; the only doubt there is, arises out of the uncertainty how far they may be consistent with the arrangements formerly adopted by Captain Briggs, with whom it would have been advisable for Mr. Willoughby to have communicated before he advanced so far.

3. A copy of your despatch will be sent to Captain Briggs, through the Commissioner in the Deccan, and it is desirable that Mr. Willoughby should suspend his proceedings until an answer be received.

4. It may, however, be doubted whether any hesitation at this stage might

not throw Kooer into complete distrust of our intention. Should such appear to Mr. Willoughby to be the state of affairs, he will proceed to conclude the agreement as far as relates to the pardon of Kooer and to any concessions promised on our part or that of the Raja of Rajpeepla; but he must be careful to enter into no engagement that may clash with those concluded by Captain Briggs with Jeewa Wussawa.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 31st January 1822.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government,

To W. CHAPLIN, Esq., Commissioner in the Deccan.

Dated 31st January 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit to you the copy of a despatch from the Resident at Baroda, of the 21st of this month, forwarding one from his First Assistant, of the 9th, reporting the arrival in his camp of Kooer Wussawa, and of the agreement proposed to be entered into with that Chieftain, and of my reply.

2. I convey the directions of the Honorable the Governor in Council that you furnish the Political Agent in Khandesh with a copy of the enclosed despatch, with the least practicable delay.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 31st January 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 19th February 1822.

SIR,—The enclosed copy of a despatch from Mr. Willoughby reports the conditions upon which the Bheel Chieftain, Kooer Wussawa, has been permitted to reside in Sakhbara, the ancient seat of the family. A translation of the bond entered into by the Chief with the Raja Verisal accompanies the despatch. It consists of nine Articles: the three first require no observation; the fourth, the first part of which has relation to any demands which may hereafter be brought against Kooer Wussawa, and the fifth, whereby every possible case of dispute on claims, &c. is referred to the arbitration of the British Government, must remove every cause of apprehension of the terms

of the agreement clashing with any which the Political Agent in Khandesh may have concluded with Chamar Wussawa ; the remaining four Articles are well calculated to ensure the tranquillity of the country.

2. The remarks of Mr. Willoughby upon the nature of the security for the good conduct of this Bheel Chieftain, show that he does not depend so much upon either the power or the inclinations of the parties who have become answerable for Kooer Wussawa's adherence to his engagement, as upon other means which have been adopted towards ensuring that person's peaceable demeanour. The first of these measures has been the dismissal of his Seebundy, the Jumadar of whom, with twenty-five others, have been taken into the service of the Rajppeepla Government, the remaining fifteen having quitted the country.

3. The other expedient seems to have been a very judicious one, the granting a monthly allowance to the Chief himself, or his brothers, on condition of their attending the Prince with a few Bheel followers and three horse. The amount of this charge is Rs. 125 per mensem, and is certainly money well bestowed, and more likely than any other mode to conciliate Kooer Wussawa's adherence to the new order of affairs, which must be rather uncongenial to his habits. A Thana of some strength has also been stationed in Sakhbara, the residence of this Chief, and there appears every reason to hope that all the objects contemplated by Mr. Willoughby will be obtained.

4. The Gaekwar's officers alluded to, have received the necessary instructions from this Government. It would save much time if the Political Agent in Khandesh was directed to correspond direct with this Residency.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 19th February 1822.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant to the Resident at Baroda,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 4th February 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 21st ultimo, and to acquaint you that in pursuance of the directions contained therein, I have concluded a settlement with Kooer Wussawa, upon nearly the same terms proposed in my letter to your address dated the 9th ultimo.

2. It appeared to me desirable that the negotiation should commence by Kooer presenting me with a petition requesting that a settlement might be made of his affairs, and containing the terms which he was ready to agree to

if his request was acceded to. Accordingly I have the honour to transmit the petition he has in consequence given me, which will be found from the accompanying translation to embody the stipulations above alluded to, with an additional request that seven of his followers, taken prisoners about a year and a half since, and now in confinement, may be released.

3. I have also the honour to enclose the security bond he has subscribed to, as well as its translation; and I trust it will be found to contain every stipulation that the circumstances in which Kooer is placed render necessary.

4. It is entered into with the Raja of this district, whose dependant Kooer formerly was and still continues to be. By this he not only consents to abide by the stipulations it contains on the part of himself, but also on that of his brethern and all persons who reside within the limits of the Sakhbara Purguna, which district was formerly granted to his family upon condition of obedience to and performing service to the Raja, and paying a small quit-rent levied in the shape of a tax upon every *Chapra*, or hut. This deed consists of nine Articles.

5. The 1st Article stipulates that Kooer, his brethren, and all the inhabitants of Sakhbara, will continue to live in that district in obedience to the orders of the Government, the same as Ryuts. The 2nd Article alludes to the exemption formerly granted to Kooer's family from paying regular Juma to the Government, but stipulates that he will pay all the customary rights of Government due from his district, consisting chiefly in the tax alluded to in the last paragraph, and the power of levying fines from persons guilty of any fault. It also expressly declares that the customs levied in his district belong to the Government, and will be collected by its Thanadar.

6. The 3rd Article stipulates obedience to the orders issued by the Government Thanas, which may either now or hereafter be placed; and no particular station being mentioned, includes all the Thanas in Rajpeepla.

7. The 4th Article stipulates for the restoration of any village or land Kooer may have unjustly become possessed of, and that in future he will not possess himself by force of any village or land, but if any one wish to give him any, he will first obtain the consent of the Government before he receives it. The first part of this Article bears reference to any claim which may hereafter be brought against Kooer, and the latter part to the possible case of land being offered to him for sale or mortgage.

8. The 5th Article is one of the most important, Kooer by it agreeing to refer all rights and claims he may possess over the territories of the British and Gaekwar Governments, Rajpeepla, or any other district wherever it may be, to the arbitration of Government, by whose decision he will implicitly abide. This also includes the arbitration of debts owed by himself, or to himself, boundary disputes, or in short anything which may tend to give him

the shadow of a pretext to interfere directly or indirectly with any village or any person not residing in his own district, and consequently not only gives Government the power of granting justice to the Chief himself, but also to all who may have just claims to bring forward against him.

9. The 6th Article stipulates that Kooer shall be answerable for any robbery which may hereafter occur in any village, or any injury offered to Ryuts, merchants, or travellers, which may be fairly traced to have originated with him, or in which he may be proved to be concerned.

10. The 7th Article stipulates that Kooer shall (in the event of his ability to do so) seize all disturbers of the public peace, robbers, or Bharwutees who may enter his boundaries; or in the event of the latter being too powerful for him, that he will give immediate information to the Government, and by its assistance seize them; further, that he will not join persons of this description, or give them an asylum, or food, himself, or allow any other person to do so. The tenor of this, as well as that of the last Article, appears well calculated to ensure the public peace, and check disturbance.

11. The 8th Article will oblige Kooer in future to take security from all persons who may choose to take up their residence in his district, and be responsible for their good behaviour. Whether he strictly follows the letter of this agreement or not does not much signify, as the desirable object of fixing upon him the responsibility for the good conduct of all who reside under his authority has been attained, by his agreeing to do so.

12. The 9th and last Article, and without which the whole arrangement would promise but little benefit, stipulates that Kooer will not entertain any foreign Seebundy of any description whatever, and if it is discovered that he acts contrary to this agreement, that he will agree to submit to any punishment Government may think fit to impose upon him. Provided a careful watch is kept that this Article is strictly abided by, however much the inclination at any future period may return to Kooer's mind to resume his former mode of life, he will in all probability be deterred from following it by finding himself deprived of the chief means by which he, in former times, carried it on with considerable though precarious success.

13. The agreement concludes by Kooer consenting to abide by the whole of the Articles above observed upon, in case of default of which he will give an answer to the Government, with the expense of the daily Mohsuls which may be sent upon him, and finally to submit to any punishment which any infraction may cause to fall upon him. He also agrees to obey any orders he may receive from the Government not specified in the security bond, and gives two Bheel Wussawas as his Fuel Zamin securities, and two others as his Arr Zamin, or counter securities. His own signature, and the marks of the four other persons concerned, are annexed to the deed in question.

14. It is now necessary to remark upon the nature of the security afforded for the due performance of the above engagement; in which, I regret to say, Ryesingjee is not at present concerned. I have not relaxed in my efforts to induce that person, by all the expedients in my power, to repair to my camp, but hitherto without success. Being fully convinced, from the information I have obtained, that he is determined not to come in until a settlement has been concluded with his son-in-law, or until he has received his dismissal, and Kooer becoming every day more impatient to return to his home, I was from necessity obliged to accept what other security he was able to afford from other quarters, independent of his father-in-law.

15. The two persons who have become Fuel Zamin security are Mylo Wussawa, of the village of Roomalpoora in the Wurreetee Purgana, and Katreeo Wussawa, of the village of Sumearee in the Sakhbara Purgana; and those who have become Arr Zamin, or counter security, are Cano Fuqueero Wussawa, of the village of Wuradeevow in the Broach Purgana, and Moongla Wussawa, of the village of Devroopea in the Sakhbara district.

16. Of these four persons, I place most reliance in the first and third. The first is not only a Bheel of good character, residing in one of the lower Purganas of Rajpcepla, and as such always likely to be at hand ready to give an answer for Kooer if required, but also stands in the same relation to this Chief as Ryesingjee does, having married his daughter to Kooer about two years since. He was moreover a follower of Narsing when the latter was fighting for his rights, and received a severe wound in one of the frequent skirmishes which took place between the troops of Narsing and those of the Gaekwar Government. I am not at all acquainted with the character of the third person, but am disposed to place some confidence in him from the circumstance of his residing under British jurisdiction, and because he is connected with Mylo, the other security above mentioned. The two remaining persons are not worthy of much confidence being placed in them, for, residing in the Sakhbara district, in the event of Kooer breaking through his engagements they would in all probability join him, and thus evade the penalty which his misconduct would occasion; still, however, they may be considered to add a little to the validity of the whole arrangement, and as such their having become parties to it will not be altogether without its advantage. Katreeo Wussawa styles himself the uncle of Kooer, and Moongla a *Petrui*, or kinsman.

17. It would, however, be altogether useless to speculate upon the validity of an engagement entered into with a person of so notorious and faithless a character as Kooer, even upon the best security that could be obtained; and I must confess that I am more sanguine that a reformation will take place in his character from collateral measures which are in progress (which will

remove from him the power of doing further harm) than in any confidence that can reasonably be entertained that he will abide by his engagements merely from conscientious motives.

18. The first of the measures above alluded to is the dismissal of the Seebundy which were in his employ when he first repaired to my camp. These, upon taking their muster, were found to amount to forty-one, chiefly Sindians and Arabs, the whole of whom, I am happy to say, have been, after a little difficulty, dismissed by Kooer, who has consequently returned to his home unattended by any other persons but his own Bheel followers. This desirable end has been obtained by holding out to some of the above number prospects of being entertained in the service of this Government, and by advancing to Kooer the trifling sum of Rs. 200 to enable him to pay off the arrears of pay due to some of these men. I did not find much difficulty in persuading the Sindian Jumadar, alluded to in the 7th para. of my letter to your address dated the 9th ultimo, to change the service of Kooer for that of this Government, in which he himself and twenty-five of his men have accordingly been enlisted.

19. The second measure alluded to, is having recommended this Government to give Kooer a small monthly stipend, upon conditions of either himself or his brother, by name Mylo, a young man of about twenty-one years old, living with twelve of his Bheel followers at Nandod, and performing whatever services may be required of him. He has agreed to this arrangement, and has received a Nemnook granting him Rs. 125 per mensem (which includes the pay of his twelve followers) upon the above condition, and also agreeing to entertain three horses, he possesses, in the Raja's service. Kooer himself left this on the 2nd instant with the intention of returning home, and of sending the young man above alluded to, to Nandod. His uncle Katreeo Wussawa will remain at Nandod as a kind of security that he will do so. I trust my having ventured to make this modification in the arrangement I before proposed will be approved of, for although no one is more deeply convinced than myself of the necessity of this State pursuing the strictest and most economical scale of expenditure, yet this small monthly stipend, even paid as it will be for hardly more than nominal service, will tend more to reclaim Kooer than any other measure that can be adopted, and teach him in some degree to appreciate the blessings of peace and good government.

20. As it is the present intention of Kooer occasionally to relieve his brother and to take up his abode at Nandod—an intention well worthy of encouragement—he has received from the Raja a Purwana containing the amudruft Bhandaree of Abdoolah Jumadar, to remain in force only so long as he conducts himself properly, and upon which, at Kooer's request, I have affixed my signature.

21. Another measure alluded to in the 17th paragraph of my letter is the sending back with Kooer a Thana consisting of forty horse and eighty foot, to be for the present stationed in the Sakhbara district. The Chief did not appear to relish its adoption, and endeavoured to obtain a delay of a few days upon several pretences, but in particular that he might be able to prepare for its reception by previously commencing re-inhabiting his district. As, however, the present opportunity for re-establishing the Raja's authority in that quarter was too favourable easily to be relinquished, I did not think it proper to listen to his proposal, observing to him that the Thana would be an assistance to him in the object he had in view, by holding out protection to all those peaceably disposed, and by inducing those who had left his and the adjacent districts to return to their homes. He finally gave up the point, and the above Thana has proceeded to its destination. It has been entrusted to an old, experienced Thanadar, who was formerly much employed in the mountainous tracts of Rajpcepla, and is personally known to most of the Bheel Chiefs who inhabit them. He has received the necessary instructions to promote as much as possible the great object of re-peopling the extensive tract of country placed under his charge ; to act vigorously, but at the same time equitably, and in as conciliatory a manner as possible, towards its savage inhabitants ; to pay immediate attention to all complaints made either on the part of the British or Gaekwar Government ; and above all diligently and carefully to keep a watch over the actions of Kooer Wussawa, and to report any act he may commit contrary to the engagement he has now concluded. .

22. With reference to the request alluded to in the 2nd para. of my letter as having been made by Kooer in his petition, although it would not perhaps be advisable to extend such an act of grace to him until the Raja's authority has been firmly re-established, and the merits of the arrangements which have been entered into shall have been tried by a short experience of the manner in which he may hereafter conduct himself, yet doing so eventually would, without doubt, tend something towards his reformation. The captives alluded to were, I believe, taken prisoners by the force under the command of Captain Rigby, and their release, which is prayed for, will perhaps materially depend upon the circumstances under which they were originally captured, with which I am not acquainted.

23. I have, at the request of Kooer, written a letter to the Political Agent in Khandesh, informing him of an agreement having been concluded with this Chief, and requesting him to have the kindness to issue the necessary instructions that he be no longer considered in the light of a disturber of the public peace. I have the honour to annex copy of this letter, which I have given to Kooer himself, enclosed under a flying seal, for the information of Captain Rigby.

24. I have further addressed a letter, copy of which I also enclose, to Ameen Jumadar, the Gaekwar Sirsoobah of the Surat Attaveesy, informing him of the same event, and requesting him to issue the necessary directions to the Thanadars under his authority stationed at Soonghur, Nansur, and other places, in future to refrain from offering further molestation either to Kooer or his followers. As, however, the late conduct of the above officer renders it probable he will pay no further attention to my request than will suit his own interests, it would appear very desirable that an order to the above effect should be issued to him by the Gaekwar Government, whose territories will now be relieved from the annual attacks they have been for many years subjected to from Kooer and his dependants.

25. Such is the nature of the arrangement concluded, and although perhaps more of hope than certainty will be considered to be attached to it, yet I have done my utmost to make the best of the materials at my disposal. Kooer Wussawa took leave of me on the 1st instant, on which occasion I took the opportunity of reminding him that as long as he continued to act in conformity with the deed he had subscribed to, he need not be under any apprehension of molestation from any quarter ; at the same time warning him of inevitable punishment awaiting him in case he did not do so. He replied in suitable terms, and I at least hope his professions, if not from choice are from necessity sincere. Kooer is something above the common order of his caste, in proof of which may be stated his ability to write a tolerable hand, an attainment which, only one other Bheel besides himself, that I have as yet met with, has acquired. He has not yet given me a memorandum of his claims, which therefore still remain to be investigated and reported upon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Camp Nandod, 4th February 1822.

Translation of a Representation from Kooer Wussawa, of the Purguna of Sakhabara, to John Pollard Willoughby, Esq., First Assistant Resident at Baroda, dated the 26th January 1822.

1. The Government shall be pleased to forgive all the turbulent acts which I formerly committed.

2. I shall now conduct myself peaceably and equitably, for which purpose I do hereby agree, for my own welfare, to give security for good behaviour, and securities for Arr Zamin, in conformity with the drafts of bonds of securities prepared by Government, and I shall not excite nor perpetrate any turbulent act.

3. I shall henceforward dismiss the Seebundies now in my employ, for I have no further need for their services.

4. After a proper inquiry shall have been instituted respecting my rights, whatever the Government shall be pleased to allow me I shall be content with the same.

5. It rests with Government to settle the disputes which have arisen between Chamar Wussawa and myself.

6. I have, of my free will, agreed to act peaceably and render personal and sincere services to Government, agreeably to its orders, without any deviation.

7. The land revenue (Jumabundec) of the Purguna has been constantly given up to me by Government. The Væra, &c. collections belong to Government, together with fines and penalties, and the customs, &c. at Sakhbara.

8. While we were residing in the village of Parrey in the Sakhbara district, Wussawa Chamar brought a Government detachment from Dhooliagur and took the village, when seven men were seized and carried off by the English gentlemen to Dhooliagur. I request that an order may be given for their liberation; it is nearly twenty months since they were taken prisoners.

In attending to my foregoing representations, the Government will have the goodness to settle my affairs properly. I am ready and willing to serve Government. Dated 2nd Maha Sood 1878 (26th January 1822).

(Signed) WUSSAWA KOOR OMUD.

Translation of a Fuel Zamin Bond entered into by Koor Wussawa, of the Sakhbara Purguna, with Maharana Verisal, Raja of Rajpepla, on the part of himself and all the Villages of the above Purguna subject to his authority, &c., his brethren, all those who reside within the limits of his Purguna Dharola, (or those who bear any kind of arms), Ryuts, and all who reside in the district of Sakhbara, of his own free will, dated the 9th of Maha Sood, Sumvut 1878, corresponding with the 31st January 1822 A. D.

I. I myself, my brethren, and all who reside in the villages of (my) Purguna will continue to reside in them, and remain in obedience to the orders of the Sirkar, the same as Ryuts.

II. An exemption was anciently made from paying revenue from my Purguna Sakhbara, but the ancient Veera (or taxes), Dund Furozee (or fines levied from criminals), &c. &c., and other levies, small or great, formerly paid to the Sirkar, I will now pay. The customs of the Purguna of Sakhbara belong to the Sirkar, and will be collected by its Thanadar.

III. I will always obey the Thanas which are now placed by the Sirkar, and if any other (Thanas) may in future remain (or be sent), I will always pay obedience to the orders they may give me.

IV. If I have become possessed of any village or land by force unjustly, I will restore it by the order of the Sirkar ; in future I will not take possession of any village or land by force, but if any one is willing to give (land) to me, having informed the Sirkar (that such is the case) and having obtained its order, I will take it.

V. Whatever I justly owe, or whatever is justly owed to me, or whatever just right I may possess, whatever boundary dispute may arise relating to me, whatever claim I may have in the territories of the Honorable Company, in those of the Gaekwar Government, in those of the Rajpeela Government, or in any other districts, wherever they may be, I will make the same known to the Sirkar, and will agree to whatever settlement it may make, and take (accordingly). I will not distress the Patel or Ryuts of any village, nor take more than may be fixed by the Sirkar, nor occasion any additional expense (to any village) beyond that fixed by the Sirkar.

VI. If from this time any robbery shall be made in any village, or any injury be offered to Ryuts, merchants, or travellers, and it is proved I am concerned or in fault, I will give a satisfactory answer to the Sirkar.

VII. I will seize any refractory persons, robbers, Bharwuteeas who may go out with a gang with the intention of committing depredations, plundering on the highway, or to commit Jhansa, who may enter any place situated within my boundaries; if they are too strong for me, I will without delay give the necessary information to the Sirkar, and having obtained the assistance of the Sirkar, will seize them. I will not join any robbers or Bharwuteeas, neither will I give them a hookah or water, nor allow any one to do so. I will not give them a resting place or food, nor allow any one else to do so.

VIII. If any new persons, either a relation or a Purdeesee (or a person belonging to any place situated out of his own territory), may come to reside in my village, having taken security from him I will allow him to take up his residence. If any fault shall be proved against him, I will produce him before the Sirkar. If it is proved that I secretly allow any person to remain, I will give an answer to the Sirkar.

IX. I will not entertain in my service any Purdeesee (foreign) Seebundy, either horse or foot. If it shall be discovered that I do so, I will give an answer, and will agree to whatever punishment the Sirkar may impose upon me.

In conformity with the above written nine Articles which I have given, I will continue to act. If in any respect a difference occurs, I will give an answer, together with the expense of Roz Mohsullee, and whatever punishment it may please the Sirkar to inflict I will consent to. Besides the above I will act in conformity to whatever orders may be issued by the Sirkar, for which Mylo Wussawa, of the village of Roomalpooroo, and Katreeo Wussawa, of the village of Sumkharee, are my perpetual Fuel Zamin security; they will

observe this themselves, and make me do so. Kano Fuqueero Wussawa, of the village of Wurendeeya in the Broach Purguna, and Manglo Wussawa, of the village of Duroopulie in the Sakhabara Purguna, are Arr Zamin (or counter security).

Declaration made by the persons who have become Counter Security.

We, of our own free will, become Arr Zamin, that in conformity with what is written above, we will give an answer, or cause one to be given, year by year, always, as long as the authority of the Honorable Company, that of the Gaekwar Sirkar, that of the Raj Sirkar, &c. &c. shall continue to exist. Dated the 9th of Maha Sood, Sumvut 1878, corresponding with the 31st January 1822 A. D.

(Signed) WUSSAWA KOOER OMUD, Δ his mark.
 „ WUSSAWA MYLO POONJA, Δ his mark.
 „ WUSSAWA KATREEO HUDNA, Δ his mark.
 „ WUSSAWA KANO FUQUEERO, Δ his mark.
 „ WUSSAWA MANGLO DEWALEEO, Δ his mark.

Memo.—This bond was confirmed by the Government of Bombay on the 7th March 1822.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant to the Resident at Baroda,
 To Captain BRIGGS, Political Agent, &c. &c. in Khandesh.

Dated 1st February 1822.

SIR,—I have much pleasure in informing you that I have succeeded in concluding a settlement with Kooer Wussawa, upon nearly the same terms as proposed in the enclosure of my letter to your address dated the 13th ultimo, and to acquaint you that that person is about to return to his home.

2. I shall hereafter have the honour to transmit for your information the particulars of this arrangement, and in the mean time have to request you will have the kindness to issue the necessary instructions that this Chief shall not any longer be considered as a disturber of the public peace, as he is still very apprehensive of being attacked by the force under the command of Captain Rigby, and of receiving molestation from Chamar Wussawa and his followers.

3. I have assured him that he need not entertain any fear of the kind as long as he continues to abide by the terms of the engagement he has lately entered into; but at his request, and to restore confidence to his mind, have given him this letter to your address, which I have enclosed under a flying seal, for the information of Captain Rigby.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,

Assistant Resident.

Camp Nandod, 1st February 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated the 2nd March 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 19th of last month, forwarding the copy of one from Mr. Willoughby, of the 4th idem, respecting the agreements he has concluded with Kooer Wussawa.

2. The Governor in Council is under an apprehension that the present agreement may be at variance with the line adopted by the Political Agent in Khandesh, and wishes some previous consultation had taken place with that gentleman on the subject; abstractedly considered the arrangement is a good one, and does much credit to Mr. Willoughby's abilities.

3. The Political Agent in Khandesh will be instructed to communicate direct with you, or Mr. Willoughby, on all subjects connected with the Principality of Rajpeepla which may require despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 2nd March 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To W. CHAPLIN, Esq., Commissioner in the Deccan.

Dated the 2nd March 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit to you the copy of a despatch from the Resident at Baroda, dated the 9th of last month, and of my reply of this date.

2. With the view of facilitating the termination of the discussions regarding Rajpeepla, the Political Agent in Khandesh should be authorised to communicate direct with the Resident at Baroda, or his First Assistant now in Rajpeepla, on all subjects connected with that Principality which may require despatch. I have the honour to convey the directions of the Honorable the Governor in Council that you will issue the necessary instructions to Captain Briggs accordingly.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 2nd March 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 19th February 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th ultimo, in reply to my despatch of the 21st preceding, forwarding Mr. Willoughby's report respecting Kooer Wussawa's arrival in Camp, and the agreement he proposed to effect with that Chieftain.

2. Your letter informs me that these conditions *are*, abstractedly considered, thought well adapted by the Honorable the Governor in Council for securing the quiet of the country, but that apprehension is entertained of their clashing with the terms of engagement which the Political Agent in Khandesh may have entered into with Jeewa Wussawa ; Mr. Willoughby's letter to me, in reply to one addressed to him on receipt of your despatch now acknowledged, will I trust satisfy the Honorable the Governor in Council, that from the cautious mode in which the engagement is drawn out, the anticipated embarrassment is not likely to arise. It appears but proper that the Political Agent should communicate the nature of his settlement with the Bheel Chiefs on the border of the Rajpeela and Gaekwar territories direct to this Residency.

I have, &c. .

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Presidency, 19th February 1822.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 13th February 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 7th instant, enclosing copy of a letter from Mr. Warden, dated the 31st ultimo, upon the subject of my proceedings with the Bheel Chieftain Kooer Wussawa, and requesting my attention to the instructions it contains.

2. Having already concluded a settlement with Kooer as reported to you in my letter dated the 4th instant, and that person having returned to his home, I am unfortunately unable to give effect to the wishes of Government that such should have been delayed until the receipt of a communication from the Political Agent in Khandesh.

3. I cannot, however, but hope that no inconvenience will, in the present instance, be occasioned by the termination of the arrangement, as I do not perceive any stipulation it embraces that can possibly affect any prior engagement that may have been entered into with the family of Jeewa Wussawa. It

was with this view that I did not press Kooer to deliver to me a statement of his claims before he took his leave, knowing that this would have imposed upon me the necessity of making an early inquiry into their merits, which perhaps might have led me to have offered an opinion in his favour upon some of these claims, which might, eventually have been found to have belonged to Jeewa's family or those of other Bheel Chiefs.

4. My letter to your address dated the 14th ultimo, forwarding copy of a letter I had written to Captain Briggs, will show that I had anticipated the wishes of the Honorable the Governor in Council, in communicating with that officer not only upon the subject of Kooer's settlement, but also upon that of the Bheels generally in Rajpcepla. I have not, however, as yet received any reply to that communication.

5. Had I delayed terminating the settlement with Kooer longer than I did, I much fear he would have returned, as he came, a plunderer and a disturber of the public peace. As it was, it required the greatest exertion on my part to satisfy his mind, during the period which intervened between his arrival in my camp and the receipt of your letter of the 21st ultimo, authorising me to endeavour to induce him to accede to the terms proposed in my letter of the 9th preceding; for it was with the greatest difficulty and persuasion that I could make him comprehend the necessity of my awaiting instructions prior to concluding an agreement with him.

6. I confidently trust, therefore, that Government, under this explanation, will be pleased to consider that I did not act injudiciously in entering upon the negotiation with as little delay as possible after receiving your instructions.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Camp Nandod, 13th February 1822.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 7th March 1822.

SIR,—By a despatch received from the Commissioner in the Deccan, of the 26th of last month, it appears that the settlement effected by Mr. Willoughby with Kooer Wussawa, is not at all at variance with the measures pursued by the Agent in Khandesh.

2. The Governor in Council has derived much satisfaction in perceiving that Mr. Willoughby's arrangements, so beneficial in themselves, are in perfect consistency with those previously adopted by the Agent in that Province.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 7th March 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 10th March 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, dated the 16th ultimo, reporting the satisfactory intelligence of Kooer Wussawa having, without delay, complied with that part of the settlement lately concluded with him, relating to his brother residing at Nandod for the performance of personal service to the Raja.

2. The anticipations formed by my Assistant upon this event, and upon that of the establishment of the Raja's Thana at Sakhabara, appear well founded.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 10th March 1822.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 16th February 1822.

SIR,—I have much pleasure in reporting, for your information, the arrival of Mylo Wussawa, the brother of Kooer Wussawa, at Nandod, on the 13th instant, for the purpose of residing here, under the arrangement reported in the 19th paragraph* of my letter dated the 4th instant.

2. I take this opportunity of reporting the arrival of the Thana, sent with Kooer to the district of Sakhabara, at its destination; that its presence has already laid the foundation of the re-peopling not only of that, but of its adjacent districts; and that from the early performance by Kooer of that part of the settlement lately concluded with him, relating to his brother being sent for the purpose of residing at Nandod and performing personal service to the Raja, a sanguine hope may be entertained that it is the present intention of this Chief-tain to lead in future a quiet and peaceable life.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Camp Purtaubnuggur, 16th February 1822.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose copy of Mr. Willoughby's report upon the Bheel population, with copy of my instructions thereon, which are

* Vide page 712 of this Selection.

necessarily very imperfect. I am most anxious to be furnished with any account which may be in the possession of Government respecting the settlement of the Khandesh Bheels, which would be some guide to Mr. Willoughby in his future arrangement with that class of people. I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 17th March 1822.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 8th February 1822.

SIR,—With reference to the 26th* and three following paragraphs of your letter to my address dated the 28th of October last, I have now the honour to submit a few observations, resulting from the inquiries I was therein directed to institute, upon the important subject of the past and future management of the Bheel population of Rajpeepla.

2. It is not my intention, in my present letter, to enter into any discussion upon the origin and history of this singular but barbarous race of people, as such would require more time and leisure than are at present at my disposal; but I intend, as much as possible, to confine my remarks chiefly to the two points laid down in your instructions, viz. 1st, to report upon the ancient mode by which, during the days of the prosperity of this State, the Bheels were kept in order; and 2nd, the mode which appears at the present time best calculated to ensure the same desirable end, and, by keeping the Bheels under proper restraint, to ensure not only the peace of the districts which they inhabit, but also that of the country generally.

3. In taking into consideration the first point, it was necessary to go as far back as the reign of Ryesingjee, who succeeded at a very early age to the sovereignty of Rajpeepla in Sumvut 1820 (or A. D. 1763), and reigned twenty-two years, or until Sumvut 1842 (or A. D. 1785). During this Raja's reign, but more particularly towards the latter end of it, Rajpeepla was in a very flourishing and prosperous condition; its finances were unencumbered; its inhabitants were equitably ruled; and the numerous classes of Bheels, composing at that time a very considerable proportion of its population, were kept under proper control and subjection. Soon after the death of Ryesingjee, and during the reign of his successor Ajebsing, this happy order of things was changed; the cause of which chiefly originated in the rebellion of Omed, the father of the present Kooer Wussawa. This powerful Bheel Chief, by the aid of a large body of Arab and Scindian mercenaries which he enlisted in his service, possessed himself of several

* Vide pages 701 and 702 of this Selection.

of the Hill Purgunās, and greatly harassed and disturbed the peace of the whole country by his frequent plundering incursions. Although this Wussawa was eventually put to death by emissaries secretly employed for the purpose, yet his example, combined with the weak and imbecile rule of Ramsing, the circumstance of Narsing becoming a Bharwuteea, and other events of too recent occurrence now to require to be enumerated, have engendered in the minds of the Bheels generally such habits of plunder, and disregard to all just rule and authority, as to render it only a work of time and patience, under the most wise and judicious system, to effect their reformation.

4. The mode by which the Bheels were curbed and kept in order by Ryesingjee, was by stationing a chain of Thanas throughout the districts they resided in, of sufficient strength to enforce prompt and ready obedience to his orders, to punish any infraction of them, as well as to maintain their general peace and tranquillity. The whole force maintained for this purpose occasionally varied in number, but its general strength is said to have been about 50 horse and 230 foot.

5. The principal station, as being the most important, was Sakhbara, the seat of the authority of the family of Kooer Wussawa, where a Thana consisting of 50 horse and 100 foot was generally stationed.

6. The importance of this station consisted principally in Sakhbara being the place at which customs were levied by the Raja from goods which were transported to and from different places by a road which, as being the shortest and most commodious, was at that time generally frequented by merchants, who carried on their commercial dealings between Guzerat, Khandesh, and the Deccan. These customs, in the time of Ryesingjee, yielded this State an annual profit of from 40 to 50,000 Rupees, which, however, it has ceased to derive ever since the rebellion above alluded to, at which time the road became unfrequented, from the insecurity of property which arose incident to the disturbances which followed it. These having continued to exist either in a greater or less degree ever since the above period, or for thirty-five years, the road has consequently never been re-opened. No attempt was made by the Gaekwar authorities to effect this desirable object, a circumstance chiefly owing to the Hill Bheels refusing to acknowledge them as their rulers, which would have rendered all their efforts to make the road safe abortive, but also from a less disinterested motive, viz. that the shutting up of this road has been a very considerable source of emolument to the Gaekwar Government, by the great increase it has occasioned in its own customs levied at Soanghur.

7. The re-opening this communication has therefore been reserved to form one of the many advantages likely to attend the restoration of the legitimate rights of the son of Narsing. The benefits likely to arise from such a measure are not easily estimated, whether in reference to those it will confer upon this

State individually, or upon the commercial part of the population of Guzerat, Khandesh, and the Deccan generally. Provided it can be rendered secure and safe, the facility of commercial intercourse between the above and many other places will be greatly increased, and, as a more remote advantage, may be mentioned the opening of a shorter and more convenient route for the movements of troops. It will, however, be some time before such can be effected, a tract of upwards of 25 koss through which it runs being at the present moment entirely waste and covered with the thickest jungles. Measures are, however, now in progress for clearing these away, and, as I have already reported, a Thana has been sent to Sakhabara for the purpose of rendering the road secure when made. I shall take as early an opportunity of travelling through this country as may be practicable, which will enable me to report more fully and satisfactorily upon its nature and the difficulties it presents to those who may hereafter frequent it; and in the mean time have to apologise for this digression from the principal subject of my letter, to which, however, it may be considered in some degree to relate.

8. The remainder of the force, alluded to in the 4th para. of my letter as having been maintained by Ryesingjee for the purpose of keeping his Bheel subjects under restraint, was distributed by him in the other Hill Purgunas, in small Thanas of from ten to thirty men each, but so situated as to be able to keep up a communication, and to aid each other, if necessary, in preserving the general tranquillity of the whole.

9. Another circumstance, which undoubtedly greatly tended to keep the Bheels in order, was the Raja building a fort at Rajpeepla (properly so called), which is situated in the centre of several of the hill districts. This place he also made his capital and the seat of his authority, not from choice but from necessity, being always under the apprehension of attacks from foreign enemies, but more particularly from the Gaekwar Government. The fort is of brick, built in a small plain, surrounded on every side by high hills, the possession of which, with artillery, would render it soon untenable. The approach to it, however, for the distance of about two or three koss, not only presents very great natural obstacles in the number and steepness of the ascents and descents through which it runs, but was formerly defended by a gate known by the name of the *Lal Durwaja* built in a strong position, being on one side flanked by a high hill also fortified, and on the other by the rocky though rather shallow river Kurjun, the approach to which was moreover defended by other fortifications, if such they can be termed, consisting of breastworks and bastions erected upon commanding positions. The fort itself, as well as its secondary defences, are now in a very ruined and dilapidated condition, having undergone no repairs for the last eight or ten years. Their ruins, however, still remain, the memorials of the policy and wisdom of Ryesingjee their founder.

10. All apprehension of foreign danger having, by the recent arrangements, been removed from the Raja's mind, Rajpeepla will now no longer continue the capital of the country except in name. It is proverbially unhealthy, and the more commodious and healthy town of Nandod will henceforward constitute the fixed residence of the Raja. This change can only be regretted in one point of view, viz. that the keeping the Bheels in order must have been greatly facilitated by the Raja being, as it were, obliged to reside amongst them, and the check which must have existed against the misconduct from the large force which, independent of the Thanas I have enumerated, the Raja in those troubled times was obliged to retain near his person, will in consequence be removed.

11. In former times no other measures were resorted to except force, to ensure subjection and obedience to the orders of the Raja from his Bheel subjects. It never has hitherto been the custom to take general perpetual security for their good behaviour, although, when any individual Bheel was apprehended on account of the committal of any crime, not sufficiently heinous as to render it expedient that he should forfeit his life, before he was dismissed from custody he was obliged, in addition to taking an oath upon the Raja's Gadee that he would behave peaceably in future, to furnish security that he would do so. The number of the securities taken varied in proportion to the nature of the offence committed and the character of the Bheel who had to furnish them. The securities furnished were Bheels, generally relations of the criminal, no other caste having yet ventured to become security for the Rajpeepla Bheels, who reverence the sacred character of a Bhatt or Bramin as little as that of any other person.

12. Before I proceed to enter upon the second subject of my letter, it will be useful to enumerate a few of the punishments inflicted upon Bheels by the Rajas of this district in ancient times, as well as the principal rights and privileges anciently granted to this race of people; both of these topics bearing reference to the general subject of my letter.

13. The punishments inflicted by the Raja upon offending Bheels were various, and for the most part cruel and summary. In case of a whole village being in fault, it was generally attacked and burnt to the ground, the whole of its wretched inmates being without discrimination of sex or age put to the sword. The punishments inflicted upon those seized who had committed treason against the Government, murder, or any very heinous crime, was generally death, although sometimes commuted to fines and imprisonment. The modes in which death was inflicted were various and sanguinary, such as by impalement, burning in a slow fire, blowing the offender from the mouth of a gun, and beheading with a sword, in which case the body was generally exposed upon a tree. The punishment of depriving

criminals of a limb (generally the offending member) was also often inflicted. For minor offences, fines, imprisonment, corporal punishment, and other lighter punishments were had recourse to. It is not to be supposed that the Government was ever very ceremonious in the selection of the proper objects for public example, but that wherever the criminal was possessed of wealth, with the exception of state crimes, he could generally succeed in purchasing his pardon.* In case of suspicion, trial by ordeal was frequently had recourse to, the terrors of which very commonly had the effect of causing those who were to be subjected to it to confess themselves guilty, in preference to undergoing it.

14. The ancient rights of the Bheels are few in number, and simple in their nature. In several instances Purgunas, the residence of any powerful Bheel Chief, have been exempted from the payment of any regular revenue to the Government, with a reservation, however, of the power of levying a small tax upon each *Chapra* or Bheel hut, and of amercing any of its inhabitants who may have committed any offence. Of this description I have already reported the district of Sakhbara to be, which was formerly ceded upon the above conditions to the family of the present Kooer Wussawa, besides which no less than four other districts have been ceded upon similar conditions to different Bheel Wussawas, viz. the district of Coolywarra, or Gungather, given to the family of the late Jeewa Wussawa; that of Gharuswala, given to a family of which Kuleea Vulvee is the present representative; that of Ratee, given to the family of the present Dermo Wussawa, who is now residing in the Gungather district, his own being entirely waste; and lastly, that of Wudgaum, belonging to Lalljee Wussawa, who is now residing in the Nansur Purguna, his own being also waste. The whole of these districts are situated upon the borders of Khandesh, the southern boundary of Rajpeepala; and it must be observed, that in addition to the conditions abovementioned upon which they are held, their possessors owe entire obedience,* and any service which they may be called upon to perform by the superior State. In other instances, villages have been granted to Wussawas, or heads of Bheel villages, upon nearly the same terms as I have described above; amongst this class of Bheels is Ryesingjee, the father-in-law of Kooer, for it must be observed, that although this Chief at the present moment is the wealthiest, if not the most powerful of all the Bheels residing in this country, yet he owes his aggrandizement more to his own personal exertions than to birth, as he is considered much below in hereditary rank to many who are now involved in the extreme of poverty and wretchedness. A general and universal right enjoyed by every Wussawa of every rank, whether high or low, is known by the name of *Vultur*, which consists in an exemption from paying revenue upon whatever quantity of land he himself and those who reside in his house may cultivate. This privilege, however,

entails upon its possessor the duty of providing with a subsistence any person who may be sent by the Government to his village, either for the purposes of collection or any other cause whatever. In villages inhabited by Koonbees, this is an expense which falls upon the villages generally, but in the case of Bheel villages, from the above cause it falls upon the Wussawa alone. There is no exception whatever to this rule, Vultur being equally the hereditary right of the Bheel who resides in the lower, or the one who resides in the hill districts of Rajpeepla. Another general right, which long usage and custom has given to every Wussawa, is that of *Koontee*, or a small tax levied by them upon merchants who may halt for the night in their villages. This is willingly paid by the merchant as the price of protection both from personal injury or loss, the Wussawa under whose care he entrusts himself and property being understood to be responsible for both. These are all the rights, at least the undisputed rights, of the Bheels of Rajpeepla, that have as yet come to my knowledge. Kooer Wussawa, however, and others, assert their pretensions to different rights from the territories of the late Peshwa, as well as those belonging to the Gaekwar Government. From all the information, however, now in my possession, I am disposed to believe that these, upon investigation, will be found untenable, either from their having been recently established or from their having originally belonged to the Raja, under whose authority they live. A more minute enquiry will, however, hereafter decide the question.

15. Such are the imperfect details that, with the utmost diligence, I have been enabled to obtain, relative to the first point under discussion. The lapse of nearly thirty-five years which has occurred since the time of Ryesingjee, has rendered it no very easy task to procure information that can implicitly be relied upon as correct. This mode of managing his Bheel subjects, imperfect as it must be confessed to have been, is the one by which, even in the present day, they must be in a great measure ruled. The natural faithlessness of the Bheel character will not warrant, at least for the present, any hope being entertained that they will abide by any engagements it may be thought expedient to require them to enter into, unless a sufficient force is at hand ready to punish any infraction of them; as it is the dread of punishment alone which will ensure these engagements being duly observed.

16. In considering the second subject of my letter, it is necessary to divide into two separate divisions the Bheels residing in Rajpeepla, viz. first, those who reside in its lower districts, and second, those who inhabit its mountainous districts. This division is rendered necessary from the different situation and condition of each, rendering a somewhat different mode in the treatment and management of each necessary.

17. Those included under the first division principally dwell in the three

districts of Gora, Gorreswer, and Khunthal, which are inhabited by them alone: the Purgunas of Ruttunpoor and Jubboogaum are also in a great measure peopled by them, and the remaining five lower districts partially so. I have already, in my letter to your address dated the 19th ultimo, given a brief account of this class, which precludes the necessity of my now making any further remarks upon them, except that, compared with the second class, they are peaceably disposed, pay their just proportion of revenue to the Government, and, in short, in their general character correspond in some degree to that of the submissive and obedient Ryut.

18. The treatment of this class appears to be obvious, viz., as long as they conduct themselves properly, and strictly observe any engagements which may be entered into with them, that all their hereditary rights and privileges shall be respected and no oppression exercised towards them, or any undue exactions levied from them; but should they, on the other hand, (and which may occasionally be expected) pursue a different line of conduct, and either fail in their engagements or disturb the public peace, that they should be visited with a punishment proportionate to the cause which may render such necessary. The Thanas which are stationed in the districts abovementioned will be of sufficient strength to prevent any common internal disturbances occurring within them, and, as a measure which promises to tend to the same end, I would suggest that of taking without delay Sanklee Zamin (literally chain security) from the inhabitants of these districts. By this arrangement each village is required to furnish as security for its good conduct the villages situated on its right and left, and so on throughout the whole Purguna, altogether forming the completest and strongest kind of security which can be obtained. Its appellation is metaphorically derived from its similitude to a chain. In such an arrangement also, the principal Bheel Wussawa in each Purguna would become security for the good behaviour of every village in the district in which he resides, and would be required to give as his securities persons who do not reside in the same district as he himself does. Although the demanding this security will constitute an innovation of established custom, yet I am not apprehensive that it will be received with jealousy or suspicion by them, provided the objects in view are carefully and properly explained. The bond to be subscribed to by them would, perhaps, in substance be the same as that I have had the honour to forward as having been executed* by Koor Wussawa, making the alterations necessary from the difference which exists in their situation and that of the latter. I shall, however, await your instructions, prior to adopting any steps towards accomplishing the object in view.

19. The management of the second division into which the Bheels have been divided will not, from local causes, combined with the more unsettled

* Vide pages 715 to 717 of this Selection.

habits of those who compose it, be so easy as that of the first class. Although it is impossible that the present condition of this Government will admit of its keeping up so large a military force as was maintained by Ryesingjee, yet, nevertheless, it must chiefly rely upon the strength and vigilance of its Thanas to maintain the general tranquillity of the mountainous districts belonging to it. It will, therefore, be necessary that a larger force should for the present be kept up than will permanently be required, not only with a view of recovering the authority over these districts which has in a great degree been usurped by the Bheel Chiefs, but also with that of running no risk of again losing it after it has been once regained. This will undoubtedly occasion an expense to the Government it cannot well afford, and without any immediate return; but it will be eventually fully recompensed by the increase which is likely to take place in its resources from the re-inhabiting, and restoration of good authority in these now deserted tracts. The principal stations at which it would appear to be the most advantageous to place Thanas, are Sakhbara, Rhocha, and the Fort of Rajpeepla. I have already alluded to the importance of the first of these places, and reported that a strong Thana has been sent there with Kooer Wussawa. Independently of keeping an eye over the actions of that Chief, it will have to preserve the peace of the district in which he resides, as well as that of the Purgunas of Nowagaum, Gajun, Gota, Thowah, Natrug, Wurcoonta, Koomdebka, Ghooonevalee, Gungadhur, Rotee, and Wudgaum. The tranquillity of all of these districts is of primary importance, as it will affect that of the province of Khandesh to which they adjoin. The strength of the Thana sent will, I trust, prove sufficient for the object in view, for although an addition to it would be desirable, yet the ability of this State to furnish it must not be disregarded. The second station is the district in which Ryesingjee Wussawa resides, who will for the present be required to be kept under some restraint. This Chief has not yet repaired to my camp, and after a short delay to see whether the departure of Kooer will induce him to do so, I must have recourse to the expedient of sending Mohsuls upon him, as any longer forbearance would not be advisable, from the prejudicial effects his example is likely to have upon the minds of others. The strength of this Thana need not exceed twenty or twenty-five men, as it could easily be supported in case of necessity by the Thana which will be stationed in the adjacent districts of Ruttunpoor and Jubboogaum. I have in the 9th para. of my letter described the advantages of the last station recommended, and shall only therefore in addition remark; that to it will be entrusted the protection of the Fort, as well as that of the Morjuree, Chopree, and Phoolswaree districts, which are situated in its vicinity; its control also extending to the Doomkul Purguna. This arrangement will, I believe, embrace the whole of the sixteen hill districts belonging to the Raja, and on it alone must their tranquillity for the present mainly depend.

20. Many causes suggest themselves why it would not be advisable at the present moment to demand security from the Bheels who compose the second division, the chief of which are the three following :—1st. The inutility of such a measure. This arises from the impossibility of obtaining any security that could be depended upon, no person of any respectability being willing to become responsible for the behaviour of persons so notoriously faithless as the Hill Bheels are known to be. It would be impracticable now to obtain the security of any person residing out of the hill districts, and such it will continue to be until the Raja's authority has been firmly re-established in them. Until this has been effected, criminals will always be able to find a sure refuge from punishment in the jungles and fastnesses with which these tracts so plentifully abound. The second objection is, that the present condition of these Purganas is opposed to such a measure. Many of them are now entirely waste, others nearly so, and the whole very thinly inhabited. Such being the case, it would appear to be more expedient, should it be decided that security is to be taken from them, that the doing so should be postponed until these tracts have been in some degree re-peopled, and brought into some degree of peace and order. The last objection is, the opinion entertained by such experienced persons as I have been able to consult on the subject, that the measure in question would, if now agitated, create in the minds of those to whom it refers, suspicion and apprehension. The causing such would, without doubt, be productive of very pernicious effects, the chief of which would be the checking and retarding the great object of inducing those whom poverty and oppression may have caused to emigrate from their country, again to return to it. I am most happy to be able to report that the whole of Rajppeepla is daily receiving great accessions to its population by the return of its former inhabitants, and as in such consists the foundation of its future renovation, it would be impolitic to adopt any measure which, in all probability, would have the effect of deterring many from doing so.

21. The only exceptions which it would appear advisable to make to the above rule, are in the cases of Ryesingjee Wussawa and perhaps the principal Wussawa residing in each Purgana. With the former, in the event of my suggestion being approved of, I would endeavour to conclude a settlement upon somewhat similar principles to that I have lately concluded with his son-in-law. This would appear to be necessary not only from the influence and power possessed by this Chief, but because he has now in his service a number of Seebundies, horse and foot, amounting as is reported to upwards of fifty men. The dismissal of these appears requisite, not only as being unnecessary to Ryesingjee himself, but also because his retaining them would hold out a temptation to Kooer's returning to his former lawless mode of life. I have already

observed, in my letter reporting the settlement with this Chief, that it is by depriving him of the power and means, rather than placing reliance upon his promises and engagements, that we can safely hope to be able to prevent his resuming his former character of a general disturber of the public peace, and Ryesingjee being allowed to retain these troops in his service would be contrary to this rule, from the apprehension that in case of need they might be placed at the disposal of his son-in-law.

22. Before I conclude, I must make a few observations upon the subjects of the future rights of the Bheels generally, and of the punishments to be inflicted upon those who are found guilty of having committed any crime. Regarding the first, I shall take for granted that no ancient right they may be entitled to will be infringed, and, as a measure likely to conciliate and reclaim them, I would further venture to suggest their extension. Should such be thought expedient, it might be effected by the Raja granting a village upon similar condition of service, and paying small quit-rents like those alluded to in the 14th para. of this letter, to the principal Bheel Wussawa residing in each Purguna. I have not mentioned my proposal to this Government, but doubt not that it would be readily acceded to if recommended, because no present loss would be sustained by it, and a very small alienation of its future resources be made. The beneficial effects these grants would have would be great, provided they were made resumable in case of any misconduct of those to whom they are given. The power and influence of the favoured Chief would be augmented; he would be looked up to by the minor Wussawas; and the grant might be considered to be given to him as a kind of equivalent for his becoming responsible for the peace of the whole of his district, and the regular payment of the revenue justly due from it.

23. I had the honour to allude last year to the frequency and enormity of crimes at that time prevalent in Rajpeepla, which naturally in a great measure referred to its Bheel population. Although the happy effects of the restoration of the legitimate authority will greatly tend to their diminution and suppression, and have in fact already done so, it will, however, be absolutely necessary to make a few examples upon persons who may be detected in having committed offences of a very glaring nature, for to spare such would appear to be misplaced mercy. Although, as I have above hinted, crimes have become proportionally less, and detections more frequent, since the short period during which the Raja has been restored to his rights, yet I regret to be obliged to report the commission of two murders within this period. The perpetrators of one are suspected to have belonged to the district of Tullukwara, and have not yet been discovered; but the other was quickly apprehended, and is now in custody. The Government are anxious to make an example of this unfortunate man, the murder having been committed upon the body of his brother;

but wish to receive directions from me previous to doing so. As, however, there are cases in which interference may not be considered proper, I have hitherto told them to act for themselves, in conformity with the ancient custom of the country, which it must be observed would equally justify the death of the criminal, or his being discharged upon payment of a heavy fine. I shall persevere in this line of conduct until I receive instructions to act differently. The other offences which have come to my knowledge as having been committed, are few in number, and have most frequently been attended with detection and suitable punishment. It is true that Ameen Jumadar has preferred several complaints against the Bheels of the Ruttunpoor district, which may, however, be said to have been occasioned rather by his unjustifiable conduct in sending Mohsuls upon them and carrying some of them off prisoners, than to any systematic habit of plunder; an inference which is supported by the fact of not a single complaint having been made during the same period by any of the Company's authorities, and which is one of no small importance when the former frequency of such complaints is recollected.

24. Having made allusion to the above Gaekwar officer, it occurs to me to remark, that every endeavour at conciliating and reclaiming the Bheels residing in this district will be fruitless, unless the Gaekwar Government discountenance such acts as those reported in my letter to you of the 17th ultimo, and acts similar to that of putting a poor unoffending Bheel to death, as reported in my letter of the 28th ultimo, being committed by its local officers.

25. Having now come to the conclusion of such observations as have occurred to me upon the important topic of my letter, I have the honour to solicit your early instructions upon the different points which may appear to you to require them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Camp Nandod, 8th. February 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant to the Resident, Baroda.

Dated the 19th February 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 8th instant, reporting upon the important subject of the management of the

Bheel population in Rajpeepla. From this despatch it will be seen that even during the golden age of Rajpeepla, in the reign of Ryesingjee in 1763, no better plan than the occupation of posts in the Hill Purgunas by Thanas of various strength was ever adopted, and no other means were had recourse to of conciliating this class of people, or of inducing them to abstain from plundering, than the severity with which offenders against the public peace were chastised; and their punishments appear to have been of the most sanguinary nature. For the present I conclude that part of this system must be pursued, viz. the maintaining of Thanas in the Hill Purgunas.

2. The arrangement concluded with Kooer Wussawa, the Bheel Chieftain of Saklbara, is admirably calculated to induce that Bheel Chief to become a useful auxiliary in the grand plan of introducing settled habits among the wild classes inhabiting the hills. His example will do much; and the allowance which has been granted to him for the maintenance of a few men in the service of the Raja, must make it an object with him not only to remain peaceful himself, but to keep others so. Any acts of grace on the part of the Raja towards these Wussawas, such as granting them waste lands, will be attended with the best effects, and the preserving to them entire all their ancient privileges and rights and not permitting the Government to trench upon them, as they will always be sufficiently well inclined to do, must in the course of time operate beneficially on the minds of these uncivilized people; and, when they feel that they suffer no oppression or hardship, then they may be expected to remain quiet and satisfied with the new order of things.

3. I can see no objection to the Wussawa retaining the privilege of Vultur, as explained by you, and the mode in which revenue is realized from their Purgunas by a tax or Veera upon each hut should be adhered to. Respecting the Koontee, or duties levied by them on merchants, should it tend towards discouraging the transit of commerce, it might perhaps be commuted for a money payment from the Government, the Raja's officers collecting this duty. I am induced to believe, from the reasons assigned in your despatch, that it would be inexpedient at the present time to attempt taking security from those mountaineers.

4. With respect to the Bheels who are described by you as assimilating more to the character of Ryuts, the same apprehension of their committing excesses does not exist; the measure, however, of taking Sanklee Zanin, I would certainly recommend being adopted. Although it be an innovation, I have reason to believe that no ill consequences would result from its introduction, of which, from your familiar local acquaintance, you must be the best qualified to form a correct judgment. The measure likewise of the principal Wussawa becoming security for each village within his limits, he also furnishing counter security for his own good conduct of persons residing in other

districts, is also calculated to connect the links of the chain; and bonds, as recommended by you, might be taken from the Wussawas. These should be simple in their nature and consisting of few articles.

5. Ryesingjee, the lowland Bheel Chief, appears to be one of the richest in the country, and it may be politic to conciliate him by showing him some marks of attention and favour from the Government, such as granting him one of the waste villages in Inam or Jaidad, or a small allowance, at the same time causing him to dismiss his Seebundy.

6. With respect to the administration of criminal justice, that power must be left unimpaired in the hands of the Native Government, who should try all causes and punish all offences according to the Moolk Seerishta; and I would only recommend your interfering when any gross act of injustice was meditated by the Government, or any of their proceedings calculated to excite discontent in the population. You can, however, and it is essential for the national character, recommend strongly that no sanguinary or cruel punishment be inflicted as described in your despatch; and should it be, as in other Rajpoot communities, the custom, in cases of murder, for the relatives to accept the price of blood, I would suggest your not offering any opposition to this composition, as an interference of this kind is likely to give offence to both the governing party and the governed. The rude people among whom you are, cannot be fitted to comprehend our system of enlightened government, and they are managed through their own customs and institutes, which, however repugnant they may appear in our eyes, to common sense, or justice, yet will be found better adapted for the wild people among whom they exist. I take this opportunity of referring you to the instructions given by Major General Sir J. Malcolm, G.C.B., to his Assistant in Malwa, as applicable to the state of affairs in Rajpeepla, and to the nature of your duties incident to our connection with that petty State. From the 26th to the end of the 33rd paragraphs are peculiarly worthy of your observation, as also the remark in the 35th para. of the instructions above quoted.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 19th February 1822.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 17th of last month, forwarding the copy of one from Mr. Willoughby, of the 8th February, on the subject of the past and future management of the Bheel population of the Rajpeepla Principality.

Your instructions to Mr. Willoughby have very judiciously prescribed the line of policy to be pursued towards the Bheels of Rajpeepla, and are similar to those adopted in Khandesh, with the difference that the allowance to the Bheel Chiefs was in money instead of land, a method apparently less suited to the means of the Rajpeepla State.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 1st April 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 9th March 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to hand up, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, copy of a despatch from Mr. Willoughby, dated the 25th ultimo, reporting his having succeeded in concluding a settlement with the Bheel Chief Ryesingjee, which appears to me to be as satisfactory as the one lately concluded with his son-in-law, Kooer Wussawa.

2. The only difference in these two settlements is pointed out in the 3rd and 4th paragraphs of Mr. Willoughby's letter, and the reasons assigned for such being in his judgment expedient and satisfactory. The nature of the security furnished by this Chief is alluded to in the following paragraph, and appears to be unexceptionable.

3. I fully concur in the reasoning contained in the 6th paragraph of my Assistant's letter, and his refusing Ryesingjee's request relative to the perpetual farm of the Roodha Purguna being granted, was, in my opinion, politic and expedient.

4. The three concluding paragraphs of Mr. Willoughby's letter contain a sketch of the character, situation, and circumstances of this Bheel Chief, which is not very favourable; but the fact related in the letter to Captain Briggs, relative to my Assistant having recovered, through his information, two horses supposed to have been stolen, and which I have since been informed belonged to the Poona Auxiliary Horse, and were stolen by two persons who escaped from the gaol at Dhoolia, itself proves the improbability of Rajpeepla being, as hitherto, a sure refuge for plunderers, and shows that the Raja has already established his authority in his highland districts.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 9th March 1822.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Acting Resident,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 25th February 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 15th instant, referring to the 18th and 21st* paragraphs of my letter to your address dated the 8th preceding, and authorising me to enter into the arrangement therein proposed, with the Bheel Chieftain Ryesingjee and those composing the second division into which I have divided the Bheel population of Rajpeepla.

2. The former Chieftain, I am happy to say, has at length been prevailed upon to repair to my camp, and I now forward† the Fuel Zamin bond he has entered into, which is exactly similar to that I lately concluded with his son-in-law Kooer, except in the 2nd and 9th Articles.

3. The difference in the 2nd Article merely arises from the former Chieftain having been guaranteed in the possession of a whole district, and the latter in only that of three villages in the Roodha Purguna, viz. those of Warree, Nansoor, and Peemgote. His right to the two former was undisputed; but his right to the latter is not perhaps strictly tenable, having merely been granted to him a very few years since by Narsing, when the latter was fighting for his rights. As, however, I consider it to be a very grand object to conciliate and bring over this powerful and wealthy Chief to the newly established Government, I thought Government would be likely to approve of my recommending that he should be confirmed in the possession of this village also, as a measure likely to contribute to the above object being gradually effected. I have accordingly done so, and the suggestion has been acquiesced in by the Native Government, which is fully sensible of the advantages it is likely to derive from extending to the Bheels generally such conciliatory measures, and in fact to make it worthy of their consideration to relinquish their usual predatory habits upon the grounds of personal interest alone. The measure also appeared to be further expedient, as its adoption precluded the necessity of the Rajpeepla Government incurring any expense similar to that incurred on account of Kooer, by settling any provision upon Ryesingjee in consideration of personal service.

4. The difference in the 9th or concluding Article of Ryesingjee's settlement consists in my having, for the present, consented at his earnest entreaty to permit him to retain in his service eight of the Seebundy now in his employ,

* Vide pages 728 to 730 of this Selection.

† This being similar in effect to the settlement concluded by Mr. Willoughby with Kooer Wussawa, (vide pages 715 to 717 of this Selection) no copy of this Fuel Zamin bond was forwarded to Government by Mr. Williams.

upon condition of his immediately dismissing all above that number, which amount to upwards of forty men. Although I could have wished to have dispensed with this reservation, yet his entreaties were so urgent, that I thought it prudent to yield to them (subject however to the subsequent sanction of Government), and considering that a point of no small importance was gained in his consenting to dismiss all but the small number in question, to which he was certainly very much averse, as diminishing his influence and power.

5. The security that Ryesingjee has furnished is, I am happy to say, most satisfactory and unexceptionable. It was his wish merely to furnish the security of persons of his own caste, to which however I would not accede, and he has consequently furnished as his principal security Abdoolla Beloochee, a Sindian Jumadar, who has already been brought to your notice as having become one of the securities for the due performance of the engagement the Karbaree of this Government has entered into with the Raja. The remaining security, and the two counter securities, are Bheel Wussawas, who, although they jointly add to the value of the whole engagement, are not worthy, separately, of much confidence being reposed in them. I feel, however, considerable reliance in the beneficial effects likely to arise from the engagement, which is not a little increased from my knowledge that Abdoolla Jumadar, fully aware of the responsibility he has taken upon himself, has relieved himself from a part of it by privately taking the counter security of several other Bheel Chiefs residing in the lowland districts of this country, his doing which I thought it my duty strongly to advise and recommend.

6. I think it right here to mention a request made to me on the part of Ryesingjee, which I did not think it expedient or proper to accede to, viz. that I would insert, in the engagement I have remarked upon, a clause granting him the perpetual farm of the district of Roodha, in which he resides. My refusal was not only grounded upon the idea that consenting to it would not have been an act of justice to the Native Government, but because I doubted, even had such an objection not existed, whether it would have been politic or expedient; for although I conclude the expediency of avoiding any interference with rights and privileges at present enjoyed by the Bheels of Rajpeepla will be considered advisable, yet I should humbly conceive a different conclusion would be drawn as to the policy of entrusting to any particular Chief (who may already possess more than his share) any increased degree of power and influence. Ryesingjee may certainly be considered as a Chief of this class, and possessing, as he does, the authority and power which follow the possession of riches, the acceding to the request I have mentioned appeared unadvisable, and calculated to increase both. As, however, it appeared to occasion considerable discontent in his mind, to

avoid falling into the opposite extreme, I privately suggested that he should have the farm of the district given to him for the present year, leaving it at the choice of the Native Government to continue it or not in future years, as it might deem to be most expedient. This has been done, Ryasingjee having willingly agreed to farm it for the sum of Rs. 500, and in addition to pay to the Raja, on his accession to the sovereignty of Rajpeepla, the sum of Rs. 400 as a Nuzerana. He has already returned to his own district, and, I have every reason to believe, contented and satisfied; and his consent has been obtained to the precautionary measure being adopted of stationing a Thana of twenty Foot Seebundy to preserve the peace of Roodha and its neighbouring districts.

7. The character of Ryasingjee has already incidentally been adverted to; differing perhaps in no material degree from the general traits of the Bheel character, except perhaps that his individual disposition is more marked by the cunning and craftiness all his caste possess, being evinced in a more timorous and deceitful manner than is generally the case. I am induced to make this remark from his submissive demeanour, and the whining cant he displayed during his conference with me, which particularly struck me. His real character was not perhaps badly conveyed in the reply I received from one whom I interrogated on the subject, "that he had sweet water in his mouth, but black blood in his heart." He is now between forty and fifty years of age, and entrusts the principal charge of the management of his affairs to the son of the Parsee alluded to in my correspondence last year with Mr. Norris upon the subject of the Rajpeepla Bheels as being at that time his Karbaree, the latter having died a few months since. He informed me that he had not had an interview with his son-in-law Kooer since the conclusion of the settlement with the latter, but added that he had heard from him stating he was much pleased with the terms granted him, and the generosity shown to him by the British Government. I did not fail to take the opportunity thus afforded of explaining to him what kindness for this once had generously been extended to his relation, but that no longer forbearance would be exercised towards him in case he swerved from his late engagements, in which event he and those who united with him would be hunted down, and treated as disturbers of the public peace. This Ryasingjee appeared to be convinced of, and promised to me his influence to prevent the necessity of such a measure being resorted to.

8. I have already mentioned that Ryasingjee is considered to be very wealthy, the foundation of which was acquired in Sumvut 1865, or A. D. 1809, in which year he is said to have obtained property of upwards of a lakh of rupees value. This was occasioned by the memorable disturbance raised in the above year by the Bhora caste in the territories of the Raja of Mandvee, for a number of that caste, after the disturbance had been quelled by the means

of a British force, sought an asylum at the village of Warree, belonging to this Chief, and only obtained it on condition of giving to him a large portion of the plundered property they had brought with them. Soon after a demand was made to Ryesingjee that these fugitives should be delivered up to justice, with which he ungenerously complied, making (with the characteristic craftiness of his caste) a stipulation that no claim should at any future period be made for any part of the plundered goods. This was readily consented to, the fugitives were given up, and the Chief left sole and undisputed possessor of the whole property the former had brought with them. This account is only given from hearsay, but the fact of Kishendas Bukshje, a former Karbaree to this State, having demanded and obtained a Nuzerana of 20,000 rupees on this pretence is, I think, of itself sufficient to prove its truth. Ryesingjee's present wealth is very considerable, as during the Gaekwar's rule the revenue he paid was very small in comparison with the resources of his district. This was also visible from the dress and ornaments of himself and followers, and is also proved by his being able to support nine wives, by whom he has issue seven sons and eleven daughters, the eldest of the former of whom is Overced Ryesingjee, a young man of about twenty-five years of age.

9. In conclusion, and as evincing more favourable grounds of hope than the above detail can possibly afford, of the future good conduct of this Chieftain, I have addressed a letter to the Political Agent in Khandesh, reporting my having recovered through Ryesingjee two horses, I have every reason to believe are stolen property; and I must add I am not without hope that I may succeed in apprehending the robbers, for which measures are now in progress which appear to me to be best calculated for attaining this desirable object.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Camp Bhalode, 25th February 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

FROM F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
TO J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 19th March 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 9th of this month, forwarding one from Mr. Willoughby of the 25th ultimo, reporting his having concluded a settlement with the Chief Ryesingjee.

2. The Honorable the Governor in Council entirely approves of the measures adopted by Mr. Willoughby as reported in his despatch.

3. I am directed to observe, on this occasion, that the Governor in Council

has derived great satisfaction from the system of conciliation adopted by that gentleman towards the Bheels of Rajpeepla.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 19th March 1822.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 10th March 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to hand up, for the information of the Honorable Board, copy of a letter from my Assistant, dated the 28th ultimo, in reply to one I had addressed to him the 19th* preceding, copy of which has already been forwarded to you.

2. From this it appears, that in the short period which intervened between those dates, that gentleman succeeded in accomplishing the grand object of taking Sanklee Zamin from 78 of the villages, inhabited by Bheels of the second of the two divisions into which he has divided the Bheel population of Rajpeepla in his letter of the 8th ultimo.†

3. The suggestion made to the Native Government by Mr. Willoughby, and alluded to in the 6th para. of his letter, appears calculated to restore confidence to the Bheels residing in the highland districts of Rajpeepla.

4. In the 7th para. of my Assistant's letter a description is given of the ancient mode of realising revenue from the Bheels of Rajpeepla, which will be pursued in future.

5. The Native Government of Rajpeepla appears sensible of the advantages it is likely to derive from confirming the ancient rights and privileges of its Bheel subjects, and even to extend them, in the manner suggested by my Assistant in the 22nd para. of his letter to my address dated the 8th ultimo.‡

6. For the reasons assigned in the 9th para. of Mr. Willoughby's letter, the measure of commuting the Koontee right enjoyed by the Rajpeepla Bheels to a ready money payment, does not appear at the present moment practicable.

7. In the 10th para. of my Assistant's letter he alludes to a former despatch to my address, in reference to the information it contained of his having taken Fuel Zamin security from such villages under the authority of the Rajpeepla State as are inhabited by the industrial castes.

8. These are 126 in number, and the stipulation these villages have subscribed to appears calculated to ensure the prevention of crime, the detection of such when committed, and to preserve the general peace of the country.

* Vide page 732 of this Selection.

† Vide page 16 of the letter referred to, at page 727 of this Selection.

‡ Vide page 731.

9. The three concluding paras. of my Assistant's letter refer to the character and situation of the Mehasee who was last year brought to the notice of Government, by name Bajee Daimen, residing in Tullukwara, belonging to the Gaekwar Government.

10. The measure Mr. Willoughby had it in contemplation to adopt, of paying off the whole of this person's claims by borrowing their amount from a Soucar, appears a good one, but could not be effected at the present moment, in consequence of no one being found willing to engage in a transaction which promised such remote advantages, and which may also be considered as proof, if such were wanting, of the distressed state of the Rajpeepla State. The only resource left was to direct that the villages upon which these dues have been established should pay them for the current year, but as soon as any one can be found willing to enter into the above arrangement, it would appear desirable that it should be adopted.

11. It would be premature to enter into any observation upon measures it will hereafter be considered necessary to adopt to restrain the depredations of Bajee Daimen and the other Mehasees residing in his vicinity, and I shall delay doing so until I have been furnished with the information alluded to in the concluding para. of Mr. Willoughby's letter, merely remarking I have no doubt the caution and prudence which mark his proceedings will be approved of, as the ill effects which would have arisen from any failure in attempting a settlement are too obvious to need remark.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 10th March 1822.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 19th instant, replying to my letter of the 8th preceding, upon the subject of the Bheels residing in Rajpeepla, and furnishing me with instructions upon the different points to which it referred.

2. My letter of the 25th instant* will have already apprised you of my having succeeded in concluding a settlement with Ryasingjee Wussawa, and I have only therefore now to express a hope it will be approved of, and that in it I have shown him such consideration as his wealth and power, his circumstances and character, rendered expedient.

3. I have now the honour to report my having taken Sanklee Zamin from the whole of the Bheel villages of the ten lowland districts of Rajpeepla, with

* Vide page 736 of this Selection.

the exception of a few Domala villages, and several others at present in the possession of Bajee Daimen, residing in the Tullukwara Purguna, which will be taken as soon as possible. It would appear advisable that the original bonds should be deposited with the Native Government, and copies of them in the Residency records, as in case of future complaints being preferred against any of the parties concerned by the British authorities, the same will be useful to refer to, and save the necessity of repeated references being made regarding them between Baroda and Rajpeepla.

4. As, however, it will take a considerable time to transcribe copies of the whole of these deeds, amounting to 78 in number, I merely now enclose a copy* of one of them, from which it will be observed they consist each of ten Articles, containing nearly the same stipulations as those I have already remarked upon in my letter forwarding the settlement lately concluded with the Bheel Chiefs Ryesingjee and Kooer; having however a retrospective effect, which the latter have not, which modification appeared necessary under the probable event of complaints and claims being advanced against some of them on account of their past acts.

5. The whole of these engagements were subscribed to in my presence, and I did not fail of taking the opportunity of explaining, as clearly as I was able, the nature of the transaction to the parties concerned, of holding out assurances and promises of the Native Government performing its part, but of inevitable punishment awaiting those who, in any degree, infringed the stipulations entered into. It would be unreasonable to expect that such will not occasionally occur, but sanguine hope may be entertained that these will gradually become rare of occurrence, and that the whole arrangement is calculated to contribute, with other measures, to the desirable objects of reclaiming the Bheels generally, to the prevention of future disturbances and crimes, and to preserving the peace of the whole of Rajpeepla and such other districts as are affected by it.

6. The whole military force now kept up by this State has been distributed in Thanas varying in strength according to the importance of the post assigned to each, throughout the districts subject to its authority, in such a manner as appeared best calculated to ensure the preservation of the peace of the whole, and a communication being kept up with one another. It is to this arrangement alone that, at the present moment, it must trust to its maintaining a proper degree of authority over the Bheels residing in its highland districts, and a very considerable proportion of its whole force has consequently been stationed in them, to enable it to maintain such. The grand work of repeopling these districts has, I am happy to say, commenced generally, and, as

* Being similar to the engagement concluded with Kooer Wussawa, given at page 715 of this Selection, no copy of this bond was forwarded to Government by the Resident.

likely to promote it, I have suggested to the Native Government the advantage it is likely to derive from deputing Abdoolla Jumadar, who is personally known to the principal Bheel Chiefs residing in these districts, for the purpose of extending the assurances I have given, to all with whom I have had any intercourse, of future protection to the well-disposed, and of punishment to the ill-disposed, and of encouraging all to commence cultivating the soil, under a faithful promise that the Government will only demand such a share of its produce as is its ancient and undisputed right to enjoy. This suggestion has been concurred in, and that person will shortly proceed on these duties, added to that of finally fixing upon the most convenient stations at which the *Thanas* are in future to be posted.

7. As from the 3rd paragraph of your letter now under reply, I am led to believe my former letter has induced you to conclude that the general mode anciently adopted by this Government of realizing revenue from the Bheels was by levying a tax from each hut, I take this opportunity of stating that my observations upon this point only referred to such of them as were situated as I have described the families of the present Chiefs Kooer and Chamar to be, viz. the district in which they reside having been granted to them as a fief, upon condition of paying this tax, and performing personal service to the Raja. The general mode of collecting revenue from its other Bheel districts is in proportion to the number of bullocks each Bheel village is possessed of, upon each pair of which a sum of money is levied : this is noticed in the 22nd para. of my letter to your address dated the 19th ultimo. This sum varies in amount in different districts, and its highest amount, that I am informed was anciently levied, was sixteen rupees per each pair, half of which is paid in money and the other half in kind, by giving the Government a certain quantity of Dangur. The Purgunas of Roodha, Natrung, and Wurcoonta are assessed in this manner. The lowest amount is eight rupees upon the pair paid as above, and according to this rate eight of the highland districts are assessed. I have only given the maximum and minimum rates, but there are intermediate rates above and below them in other districts, of ten, twelve, and fourteen rupees, which were originally fixed with reference to the superior advantages each district possessed, or was supposed to possess over the other. That part of the revenue paid in kind was always paid in Dangur, and not in the particular grain the Bheel might choose to grow, eighteen maunds being paid from districts paying sixteen rupees for each pair of bullocks, and so on in proportion, according to the amount of the different other rates. This is the general mode adopted, but in cases where the Bheel is not possessed of a bullock, a tax of two rupees and a half is levied upon his *Kowaree* or hatchet, and his *Kodalee* or pickaxe, and one-half of that amount upon his *Daturdee* or instrument for cutting grass. These petty taxes do not vary in amount, but are

paid in a similar manner as that levied upon each pair of bullocks, or half in specie and half in kind, and were originally imposed as the Government share of the profits the Bheels derive from the possession of those implements of Bheel agriculture.

8. It is the intention of the Native Government to observe the above mode of realizing its revenue, sanctioned as it is by the ancient usage of the country. It is also fully aware of the policy of infringing none of the just rights anciently enjoyed by its Bheel subjects, and consequently still to allow them their Wuttun and Koontee rights. It also has it in contemplation to make an arrangement of the kind alluded to in my letter to your address of the 8th instant, of giving a village of small value to the principal Wussawa in each of the Bheel districts upon the terms I have therein mentioned. Narsing was much struck with the benefits likely to arise from showing this mark of favour to them, and said, as far as he was concerned, it met with his concurrence, not only on grounds of expediency, but also on that of the good name it would give to his son's government, evincing as it would that he was not unmindful or ungrateful for the services he himself had derived from the Bheels when a Bharwuteea, fighting for his hereditary rights.

9. With reference to the 3rd para. of your letter, although the proposed measure of commuting the right of Koontee enjoyed by the Bheels, for a ready money payment from the Government, would appear likely to relieve the commercial community from a chance of undue exactions being levied from it, yet with all due submission I do not think it can be effected. I have already stated the nature of this levy, from which it will have been observed that it is undefined in its amount, and not levied at any particular place; but that it is a small tax willingly paid by the merchant, to the Wussawa of any Bheel village under whose protection the former may choose to entrust himself for a night. In the case of any Wussawa being asked what is the amount of his right, he would reply he knew not, as it entirely depended upon the flourishing or depressed state of commerce, to which may be added his personal character as to honesty and good faith. In speaking to the Native Government upon the feasibility of the proposed measure, it delivered the same opinion, observing upon the almost entire impracticability of in the first instance dividing this right, small and trifling as it is, amongst so many persons who would be claimants for a share of it; or, in the second place, of its ability to collect the levy without incurring a very considerable expense above its amount. Under these considerations, I am induced to delay taking any further steps upon the subject, until I am favoured with your reply to these observations.

10. I have already, in my letter to your address dated the 19th* of January

* Vide the close of para. 6 of that letter, at page 534 of this Selection.

last, alluded to my having taken Bhatt Fuel Zamin security from such villages belonging to the Rajpeepla State as are inhabited by the peaceable and industrious castes. For the reason alluded to in the 4th para. of my letter, I am only now able to hand up a draft of this document, the substance of which is, that each village engages to refrain from the committal of offences, or to give a satisfactory answer to the Government in case any are committed; that it will not connect itself with any robbers or disorderly persons; that it will not quarrel with any one; that it will not unjustly take possession of any land; and in case any robbers are traced within its boundaries, that it will either trace them into those of another, or restore the plundered property or its value. These deeds amount to 126 in number, the originals of which are in the possession of the Native Government, and copies will be hereafter forwarded for the purpose of being deposited in the Residency records, to refer to in case of necessity.

11. I take this opportunity of referring to the 31st para.* of your letter of the 28th of October last, relating to Bajee Daimen. This person paid attention to a request I sent him to repair to my camp, and upon investigation I found his rights upon this State had been established during the late troubled times, by his advancing money to many of the villagers to satisfy the demands of the Government, with whom he agreed to receive, under the denomination of Gecras, twenty-five rupees per cent. annually until the principal was repaid, in order to avoid the law professed by his faith never to enter into usurious contracts.

12. The plan which suggested itself to me as being the most expedient, and one which I think I could have carried into execution, was for the villages to take up a sum of money at a moderate rate of interest from a Soucar, equal in amount to the money advanced to it by Bajee Daimen, and the latter upon its receipt to give a release in full of all demands. In this, however, I have for the present failed, as I could find no one willing to engage in such a transaction, which only promised remote advantages, as the villages would not for several years be able to repay the money advanced.

13. I shall hereafter report more at length upon the subject of this person's claims, which, for the present year, must be paid as heretofore by the villages. It will, however, be absolutely necessary for the peace and security of Rajpeepla, that an efficient check should be placed upon him and the other Meh-wasees residing in Tullukwara, who are an annoyance not only to this, but particularly to the districts belonging to the Gaekwar Government. Although convinced as I am of the necessity of security being taken from all, I have not attempted to demand such, not only because they reside in a district now

* Vide page 702 of this Selection.

belonging to the Gaekwar Government, but because I could only have resorted to conciliatory measures to have effected it, as I do not consider the Detachment with me (in case the above had failed, and it was necessary to have had recourse to force) of sufficient strength to warrant full confidence of its operations being successful; the example given only last year, of a very large Gaekwar force being foiled in an attempt to punish them, proving them to be possessed of power to resist an hostile attack, to the success of which the nature of the district they inhabit, consisting principally of hills, jungles, and nullas, would greatly tend. Motives of prudence, therefore, made me rather prefer leaving the Native Government, to protect Rajpeepla from their depredations for the present year, than to run the risk of meeting with a non-compliance to demands which it was not probable I could have enforced. I am endeavouring to become acquainted with the actual state of the parties concerned, and shall, as soon as I am able, report the result for your information and that of Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Camp Nandod, 28th February 1822.

From F. WARDEN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 22nd March 1822.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 10th instant, forwarding one from Mr. Willoughby of the 28th ultimo, reporting his having taken Sanklee Zamin from the whole of the Bheel villages of the lowland districts of Rajpeepla.

The Honorable the Governor in Council entirely approves of the measures adopted by Mr. Willoughby, as reported in his despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. WARDEN, Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 22nd March 1822.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,
To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 16th January 1824.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, reporting the conclusion of an agreement with Wussawa Kooer Jeewa, and

Kalea Chamar, of the district of Kooleewara, consisting of four Articles, the nature and extent of which are shortly described in his letter. One great object is obtained by the conditions, in the opening of the road *viâ* Sakhbara into Khandesh.

2. I shall take an early opportunity of again urging upon the attention of His Highness the Gaekwar the measure of commuting the protection fees, levied by the Soonghur authorities, for a money payment.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 16th January 1824.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident on Deputation,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 5th January 1824.

SIR,—With reference to the 8th paragraph of your letter dated the 3rd of November last, I have the honour to report the arrival, at Nandod, of a brother and of a son of the late Chamar Wussawa, and that they have concluded a settlement with the Rajpeepla Government, which, with its translation, is herewith transmitted.

2. This engagement consists of four Articles only, containing the following stipulations :—

The 1st ensures the obedience and rights anciently due to the Raja from the family, and the stationing a small Thana in their district.

The 2nd stipulates that the family shall not harbour any offenders, or commit any disturbances themselves.

The 3rd secures the eventual opening of the new channel of communication I have proposed, between Khandesh and Guzerat, *viâ* Sakhbara, by providing against any molestation on the part of the family to merchants frequenting it, safety to them in their passage through their limits, and prohibiting them from levying more than their ancient rights.

The 4th and last provides against any interference on the part of the family with the established rights of Kooer, or any other Bheel or Melwasee Chief; but in case of any dispute arising between them and any other Chief, the same to be submitted for the arbitration and decision of the superior Government.

3. From the above summary it will be observed I have purposely made this settlement as concise and as simple as possible, for from the connection of the family with the British Government, it appeared to me to be unnecessary it should be as strict and detailed as those formerly concluded with the Bheel

Chiefs Kooer and Ryesing*. I kept also in view the avoiding all interference with the engagements the family have entered into with the British Government, which cannot possibly be affected, no allusion even being made to them.

4. The engagement is of course subject to the final ratification of Government, although it has been duly signed by the parties concerned, who were anxious to return home without delay. Their district is offered as the guarantee for its performance. The family have, on the other hand, received from this Government the usual Cháp, or sealed paper, guaranteeing to them the peaceable enjoyment of their present possessions and rights.

5. I shall hereafter have the honour more particularly to report the advantages expected to be eventually derived by the Raja in particular, and the public in general, by the opening of the road alluded to in the 3rd Article of the agreement, which has been shut up for the last fifty years, in consequence of the late unsettled state of Rajpeepla.

6. In conclusion, I take the opportunity of reporting that this family, as well as that of Kooer Wussawa, have both renewed their solicitations for the restoration of the Ghoonwalee Koontee, or protection fees at present collected by the Gaekwar authorities of Soonghur. It will be in your recollection that the Governor in Council, in Mr. Secretary Farish's letter dated the 18th of December 1822, recommended that this claim should be commuted for a money payment by the Gaekwar Government, in the wisdom and policy of which, it is to be hoped, the latter will finally acquiesce. The particulars of this claim were reported upon in my letter dated the 10th of October of the same year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assistant Resident,

Camp Nandod, 5th January 1824.

on Deputation.

Translation of an Agreement entered into by Wussawa Kooer Jeewa, and Kalea Chamar of the district of Koolleewara, on their own part and that of their brethren, with Maharana Verisal, Raja of Rajpeepla, dated the 3rd of Pous Sood, Sumvut 1880, or the 4th January 1824.

We, of our own free will, subscribed to a security bond containing the following Articles :—

ARTICLE I.—We will live in obedience to the Rajpeepla Government according to ancient custom, and pay whatever are its ancient rights. A Government Thana will be stationed at (the village of) Lungree, for the preservation of the peace of the district, to which we will live in obedience.

* Vide pages 715 and 736 of this Selection.

ARTICLE II.—We will not harbour any turbulent Bheels, or Mehwasces, or any offenders against the Government. We will not ourselves commit any disturbances whatever.

ARTICLE III.—We will not give any molestation to merchants frequenting the Sakhabara road, but we will give them a safe conveyance through our limits. We will levy whatever may be our ancient rights, but no more; whatever may be the rights of Government, it will levy.

ARTICLE IV.—Kooer Wussawa, the Vulvee, or any other person, will enjoy whatever may be their ancient established rights. In this matter we will offer no hindrance, and will not enter into a dispute with any one. If a difference arise on any subject, we will make the same known to Government, and act in conformity with its orders relating to the same.

In conformity with the above four Articles of agreement which we have entered into, we will conduct ourselves properly. If we commit any disturbance or fault whatever, our Purguna is security for the same. What is written is true.

(Signed) WUSSAWA KOOR.

„ WUSSAWA ROYA, and TATTIA and MOONDA, 2 Bhyes.

„ WUSSAWA GOMER and KALEA VULLUD CHAMAR.

Witness :

NEELKUNT BAJEE, inhabitant of Coparell, and Agent of the Family.

(True translation)

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident,
on Deputation.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government, Bombay,

To the COMMISSIONER IN THE DECCAN.

Dated 26th January 1824.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit to you copy of a letter from the Resident at Baroda, dated the 16th instant, forwarding copy of one from his Assistant, reporting the conclusion of an agreement between Wussawa Koor Jeewa, and Kalea Chamar of the district of Kooleewara, and the Rajpeepla Government.

2. The Governor in Council requests, that you will be pleased to call on the Collector in Khandesh to state whether this agreement interferes with any claims of Chiefs in the district under his charge.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 26th January 1824.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. CHAPLIN, Esq., Commissioner, &c. &c., Poona,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 29th March 1824.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th January last, with the transcript of a letter from the Resident at Baroda, and to forward, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, the copy of a letter from the Collector in Khandesh, dated the 13th instant, and of its enclosures, relative to the agreement concluded between the Wussawa family and the Rajpeepla Government.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. CHAPLIN, Commissioner.

Bombay, 29th March 1824.

From Major A. ROBERTSON, Collector in Khandesh,

To W. CHAPLIN, Esq., Commissioner, &c. &c., Poona.

Dated 13th March 1824.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 31st January, giving cover to copies of a letter dated the 26th of that month, from the Chief Secretary to Government, and of its enclosures from the Resident at Baroda, relative to an agreement concluded between the Wussawa family and the Rajpeepla Government.

2. To enable me the more satisfactorily to reply to your query as to whether this arrangement interferes with any claims of Chiefs in this Province, I made a reference on the subject to Captain Rigby, whose acquaintance with the interests and rights of the Bheel and Melwasee tribes towards Rajpeepla is more extensive than my own; and I have now the honour to submit a copy of that gentleman's observations, under date the 27th of last month, as well as a copy and translation of the paper given by Kooer Wussawa, to which Captain Rigby's letter adverts.

3. From what I can gather from these documents, as well as from other sources, I conceive that the agreement does not trench on the rights of any Chieftain in this district; but under the feelings evinced by Kooer Wussawa in regard to being again subjected to the authority of the Rajpeepla State, and especially in reference to the policy of not disturbing the order of things under which the Wussawas have so long abstained from aggression, it still remains a question whether the 1st Article of the agreement had not better be, at all events for the present, suspended. The Article itself is very indefinite, and

therefore leaves much room for discussion ; and discussion among such people is next of kin to violence and aggression. There is no doubt, too, that the presence of a Thana, especially as it is asserted never to have been before established, will be an eye-sore, which will not patiently be borne with. Indeed it will require both that the one party should forget the exertions they have made and the hardships they endured to become independent, and that the other should think no more of the injuries sustained in this struggle, before we can expect either that the former will be contented or the latter moderate. The influence of our Government both here and in Rajppeepla may, it is true, for a time smother the enmities that such a state of things will not fail to engender, but the chances are that they will at no distant period break forth with a violence equal to the restraint by which they may be kept under.

4. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that the Rajppeepla State should content itself with the acknowledgment merely of its supremacy, and leave all its other rights, whether admitted or not, in abeyance ; at all events, that it should exercise none without the express sanction of the British Government, to whose influence alone it is indebted for the fealty, such as it is, of these tributaries. Besides by this policy consulting its more immediate pecuniary interests (for enforcing its rights will cost more than they are worth), it will materially promote the due fulfilment of the other Articles of the agreement, which are the most valuable parts of that document, and the objects of which can only be secured by such means as will keep the Wussawas quiet and contented.

5. If at any future time the Wussawas should misbehave, then the 1st Article might be enforced, and in the mean time they should be told that it is suspended only so long as they zealously acquit themselves of the other parts of their treaty, and faithfully discharge their obligations to our Government.

6. I have offered no remark on the Wussawas now cavilling at a clause they profess to have agreed to with their free will ; but I may observe, that if so soon after such a profession they make no hesitation in stating their objections, we may assume that however cordially they may have signed the paper, they have no intention of equally with their free will acting up to this part of it ; and this may suggest to us to follow the policy I have ventured to recommend. Nothing, I will only add, will so soon render all these tribes of little consequence, as carefully refraining from any measures that will either tempt, or force them to aggression, and thereby oblige them to feel and remember that they are powerful both in their numbers and in the country they inhabit. The Wussawas are already beginning to forget these advantages, and therefore we should be careful not to rouse them.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) A. ROBERTSON, Collector.

Camp Julgaom, 13th March 1824.

From Captain G. A. RIGBY, Commanding Field Detachment under the
Collector in Khandesh,

To Major A. ROBERTSON, Collector in Khandesh.

Dated 27th February 1824.

SIR,—I should have had the honour to have replied ere this to your official of the 9th instant, relative to the enclosures therein contained, but for the absence of Kooer Wussawa, the Bheel Chief, whom it principally concerns, having been engaged in the celebration of a religious festival. Yesterday he visited me, and I translated to him the agreement entered into at Nandod, as essentially necessary to enable me to answer your reference. The enclosed document (No. 1) will place you in possession of the sentiments of this Chief relative to the 1st clause of the agreement.

2. With the utmost deference I beg to submit, what my long experience with the Bheels may be permitted to plead as my excuse for offering for consideration. No Native Chief, either the acknowledged or nominal head of any of the Bheel tribes, possesses any real authority other than that of the conviction entertained by the mass of the population of his ability to aid their aggressions, his power to screen their delinquencies, or to coerce and effectually to curb and punish their irregularities. All of the Rajpoot Rajas, and most of the other petty Chiefs, the population of whose districts and villages are composed principally of Bheels, entertain a greater or less number, in proportion to their means of payment, of the most abandoned, worthless, and profligate description of Seebundies. The tyranny and oppression exercised by these Chiefs thus supported, joined to the endless petty exactions and haughtiness of these armed miscreants, is one principal source of the miserable poverty so generally and lamentably existing amongst the Bheels, and the origin from whence may be traced the long catalogue of the blackest crimes which ever disgraced humanity. The countenance of Government afforded to any one of these Rajas greatly magnifies the evil, by placing him above the fear of any armed combination, and tends only to increase his avidity for plunder, and more effectually to rivet the chains of wretchedness. During the time I have been honoured with this command, the Bheels crowd to me for redress of their numerous grievances, their complaints are attentively considered, and if (which is almost invariably the case) they have been aggrieved, my utmost influence is exerted with their Chief, and I have seldom failed to obtain for them redress, either by reason or admonition, or, as a last resource, explaining it would be my duty to represent their conduct to Government, who, though anxious to secure to them and preserve inviolate their just rights, would never tolerate acts of injustice, and the forfeiture of their pensions might be a probable consequence of the marked displeasure of the Government.

We have, I conceive, under this rule of conduct, divested the hitherto formidable family of the Wussawas of all power, further than that which they command by means of a few Seebundies, their relations, and immediate dependants. We have enlisted the population of their district on our side; the popular feeling is in our favour; they are fully impressed with a sense of the security their persons and property enjoy under our protection; and I very much question if any member of the family could now succeed in effecting anything amounting to a general disturbance. It is worthy of remark how utterly incompetent the Rajpoot Rajas and their villanous soldiery, left to themselves, have repeatedly and invariably been proved to punish, apprehend, or even effectually to assist in any operation against predatory bodies of Bheels, who have taken to the hills and renounced the authority, from whatever cause, of their hereditary superiors. Concession in the first instance, accompanied with the most solemn asseverations of pardon and security of their lives and property on submission, and never failing subsequent treachery, are the infallible remedies to which, on all occasions of revolt, the Rajpoot Rajas are certain to resort. Their revenge is equally cowardly, implicable, and diabolical, which their Bheel subjects well know from many bitter lessons of experience; whence the resolution and determined obstinacy with which they reject all accommodation. Men who can prepare a meal from wild pulse, the seeds of grass, roots, and berries, and if by accident a little tobacco and salt are obtained are in the enjoyment of luxury, whose scanty clothing is a mere span of the coarsest cloth, whose armouries crowd whole forests, have little to dread from the futile attempts of the effeminate, luxurious, opium-intoxicated crew by whom they are followed not pursued. The privations to which our troops are exposed on Bheel expeditions, the fatigue they suffer, the sickness and casualties which ensue, the constant expense incurred, contrasted with the public benefit likely to result from securing to the Bheel his right to property acquired by his industry; in fact to show him and convince him he is a man, and not unworthy the consideration of an enlightened, humane, and powerful Government; let him learn that he has rights which can only be forfeited by his own misconduct, by interposing between him and his Chief the powerful shield of Government to guard him from plunder and oppression, the females of his family from being forcibly appropriated or bestowed as suits the will or caprice of the Chief, or from being transformed into disgusting living monuments of the Bheel superstition of witchcraft; to save him from being converted into a scourge to society, and from revenging on the community at large the injuries he has suffered, are all points which I venture most respectfully to submit as every way entitled and well worthy of your attentive and mature deliberation.

3. Such is the morality of these Chiefs, that after having stripped the Bheel

of his little all, they will supply him with a little food, and provide him with arrows, urging and exciting him to rob and plunder; of the fruits of which they receive the principal portion. Deprived of the power to reduce the Bheel to the dreadful alternative of starvation or plundering for a support, this very Bheel, nine times out of ten, would prove a peaceable subject; would not injure, if he did not contribute to the revenue of the country; and would be willing and ready to aid in seizing all disturbers of the public tranquillity.

4. By supporting the Rajpoot Rajas we neutralize the active hostilities of some few hundreds of contemptible Seebundies, and increase and perpetuate a wide circle of abuses, which extends to the whole Bheel population, and embraces in its consequences the maintaining constant detachments, heavy expenses, the recurrence of frequent disorders, and the perpetration of crimes of the most horrible description.

5. With the character of the present Raja of Nandod I am unacquainted, but I earnestly implore, before vesting him with the power and authority of his ancestors, you will take into consideration that the exercise of this power was the fruitful source of dreadful calamities to Khandesh, upwards of a lakh of Rupees having been paid by Jeewa as the Raja's portion of the acknowledged plunder of its miserable and devoted inhabitants. It is true circumstances are now widely different; but if it is allowed to be of importance to have a friendly, powerful, industrious tribe placed as a barrier between our Purgunas from aggressions from the hills, I beg your serious attention to the policy of risking the present comparative security enjoyed by the inhabitants of this part of Khandesh, and disturbing the slow, though visibly progressive, improvement amongst the Bheel population, by the renewal of a yoke Jeewa threw off with indignation, which he evinced his ability to maintain, which his zealous and faithful services to Government may be permitted to confirm, and which if renewed, his sons will bear impatiently, and eagerly embrace the very first favourable opportunity, joined by the united efforts of the whole tribe, to assert their independence, and re-establish, to their utmost ability of compassing, the former reign of anarchy.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) G. A. RIGBY, Captain,

Commanding Field Detachment under the Collector in Khandesh.

Kookurmoonda, 27th February 1824.

Translation of a Paper given by Kooer Wussawa bin Jeewa Wussawa to Captain Rigby, dated 26th February 1824.

We beg to state that we went to Rajpeepla, where we entered into an agreement of four clauses; of these, three are proper. In regard to the fourth, it states that we are to remain subject to the authority of the Rajpeepla Raja; to

discharge the Raja's usual dues ; to have a Thana of the Raja at Sangree. I have not however agreed to this entirely from consideration to the Raja, but to the English gentleman (Mr. Willoughby) who was there. The district formerly became waste, owing to the annoyances sustained by the demands of the Raja's Sepoys for subsistence, and we have suffered a great deal. Owing to this, my father, on the English authority being established in Khandesh, made an arrangement with it, and the Company's troops, horse and foot, pay for their food, and occasion no loss to our Ryuts. From this the Bheels have become settled. However, if we are hereafter to be subject to the Raja and a Thana established in Sangree, the Ryuts will be distressed and quit the country. Heretofore no Thana has been stationed in Sangree ; and as to established dues, it was owing to them that the country was formerly run waste. It is now somewhat re-peopled, but it will again be deserted if the Bheels and Ryuts are molested. They will betake themselves to the hills, and will not listen to us. We therefore beg to present this petition.

Written by VENAËK GOVIND, Koolkurnce of Kookurmoonda.

(Signed) KOOR WUSSAWA BIN JEEWA WUSSAWA, of Sangree.

KOOSHAL WULLUD GUMBAR SONAR, witness.

(A true translation)

(Signed) A. ROBERTSON, Major.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 8th April 1824.

SIR,—Referring to your despatch of the 16th January last, relative to the conclusion of an agreement between the Wussawa family and the Rajpeela Government, I have it in command from the Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a letter from the Commissioner in the Deccan, dated 29th ultimo, and of its enclosure from the Collector in Khandesh, whose observations on the subject appear entitled to great weight.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 8th April 1824.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,
To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 18th April 1825.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward, for the information of Government, copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, dated the 9th instant, reporting a visit

paid to him by the Bheel Chieftain Kooer Wussawa, and of his having concluded a settlement with him on the part of the Gaekwar Government for his share of the Ghoonwalee Koontee, for the nature of which I beg to refer to the enclosure to my Assistant's letter, a translation of the same. The information given of the conduct of this celebrated Chief since his submission, may be considered very satisfactory.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident at Baroda.

Baroda Residency, 18th April 1825.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident on Deputation,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 9th April 1825.

SIR,—I have the pleasure to acquaint you that the Bheel Chieftain, Kooer Wussawa, after some hesitation has been prevailed upon to repair to my camp. It appears that this hesitation arose from his not being aware of the precise object for which his presence was required.

2. Kooer has willingly agreed to accept the sum of Rs. 1,000 per annum from the Gaekwar Government in commutation of his share of the Ghoonwalee Koontee. I have the honour to enclose an agreement he has in consequence entered into, with a translation. From the latter you will observe, that the Chief's Wuttun (estate) and Geeras are pledged as security for his future good conduct, and entire abstinence from making depredations or disputes in any quarter.

3. I had the pleasure of making the first payment of the sum now settled on him, which must greatly tend to induce him to abide by existing engagements. His receipt for Rs. 1,000 is enclosed, for the satisfaction of the Gaekwar Government.

4. I have already reported to you my communications with Kooer respecting the complaint preferred against him by the Raja of Mandvee through Mr. Romer. I am happy to repeat here that it is the only one which has come to my notice during the last three years, and even this has not yet been proved. I am sanguine therefore that I have grounds to consider him a reformed character, and did all in my power to impress upon the Chief the necessity of his still pursuing a peaceable mode of life, causing his former engagement to be read over to him in my presence. His promises were very favourable, he himself justly observing that now that his rights were restored to him, and that he did not receive molestation from any one, he had no cause or motive to resume his former occupations.

5. I took this opportunity of acquainting Kooer with the decision of Government respecting his claim to the Nowapoora Koontee, to which he immediately consented. I could not conclude the final agreement respecting this claim, the annual amount of commutation to be given for it not being yet fixed.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assistant Resident,

on Deputation.

Camp Tullukwara, 9th April 1825.

Translation of an Agreement entered into by Kooer Wussawa, with J. P. Willoughby, Esquire, renouncing all claim to the Ghoonwalee Koontee, on condition of receiving a pecuniary commutation from the Gaekwar Government for the same, of One thousand Rupees per annum, dated Sumvut 1881, Chyter Vud the 5th, corresponding with the 8th of April 1825.

I will never commit any depredation or dispute in the territories belonging to the Honorable Company, to the Gaekwar, to Rajpeepla, or in any other Talook (district); but will pursue a peaceable mode of life. On this point I formerly gave a writing to Government, with security for my good behaviour, which still continues in force. The Gaekwar authorities at present collect the Koontee of Ghoonwalee at Soonghur, the half of which belongs to me. I entrusted the settlement of this claim to Government, promising to abide by its decision respecting it; upon this, Government in its beneficence have agreed to obtain from the Gaekwar Government one thousand (1,000) rupees per annum in commutation of my half share of the Koontee in question. To this settlement, of my own free will and pleasure I agree. From this time I will not make any dispute or depredation in the territories of the Honorable Company, the Gaekwar, Rajpeepla, or any other district, but will live quietly, performing service according to the orders of Government. If any infraction of this agreement arises, I shall be an offender against Government, and if for my offence Government should confiscate my Wuttun (entire estate) and Geeras, I relinquish my claim to the same. I agree to this stipulation for the satisfaction of Government, and for my acting in conformity to this engagement, and pursuing a peaceable course of life, the securities given to my former engagement are in force. They will cause me to answer for myself, or give an answer for me.

(Signed) WUSSAWA KOOR OMED.

Witness :

(Signed) ABDCOLLA KHAN BELOOCHE JUMADAR.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 28th April 1825.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, dated the 18th instant, with copy of one from your Assistant on deputation in Rajpeepla, detailing the result of a visit paid to him by the Bheel Chieftain Kooer Wussawa, and to acquaint you that the Governor in Council approves of the agreement concluded with that Chief, renouncing his claim to the Koontee of Ghoonwalee at Soonghur.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 28th April 1825.

SETTLEMENTS EFFECTED BY MR. J. P. WILLOUGHBY, IN
THE YEARS 1823 to 1826, WITH THE BHEELS, NAIKRAS,
AND MEHWASEES OF THE WUSRAVEE, TULLUKWARA,
PUNCHMAHALS, AND OTHER DISTRICTS.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 14th November 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to report, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, that I have directed Mr. Willoughby to proceed on deputation to Rajpeepla, and to enclose copy of my letter furnishing him with instructions for his guidance.

2. It will be observed, that the chief object for which that gentleman is deputed, is to endeavour to apprehend, or make a settlement with, Bajee Daimen and his associates, so as to render it practicable for the detachment of British troops at present stationed in Tullukwara to be altogether removed or considerably reduced.

3. From the 11th paragraph of my letter to Mr. Willoughby, Government will learn with satisfaction that His Highness the Gaekwar has agreed to remit Rs. 45,000 of last year's tribute, in consequence of the heavy calamity which lately visited Rajpeepla.

* * * * *

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 14th November 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant, Baroda.

Dated 3rd November 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to request you will be pleased to proceed to Rajpeepla, as soon as may be practicable.

2. The object of the greatest importance of your present deputation is to endeavour to apprehend, or make a settlement with, Bajee Daimen and the other turbulent Mehwasee Chiefs of Tullukwara, in order to do away with the necessity of maintaining the detachment at present stationed in that province.

3. I am not without hope that you may be able to accomplish so desirable

an object, as it is to be supposed, if you do not find their apprehension feasible, that they will be found disposed to listen to terms. The precise nature of the terms to be offered to them I leave to your discretion, and experience of their situation and connections; but the basis must be the relinquishing their present place of residence, on condition of their lives being spared and a maintenance being regularly paid them at Baroda, or any other more convenient place.

4. I shall direct Captain Morin, the officer at present commanding the Tullukwara detachment, to comply with any requisition or instructions he may receive from you with the above object in view.

5. You will be pleased to furnish an account of the actual receipts and disbursements of the Rajpeepla State, contrasted with the estimate forwarded in your letters to my address of the 23rd of February last, and also an estimate of the same for the present year.

6. Government having sanctioned the tenor of the bond you have recommended the Raja should enter into with the British Government, you will take this opportunity of causing the same to be executed and sent to Baroda.

7. I have the honour to furnish you with copy of a letter from the Collector of Surat, reporting upon the claims of the Rajpeepla Geerasias within his jurisdiction, admitting some and rejecting others. You will furnish the local Government with the information it contains, and request it to acquaint the parties concerned, who are of course at liberty to adduce proof in substantiation of any of the rejected items, if such is in their possession. I have not as yet been favoured with a similar report regarding these claims from the Collector of Broach, to whom, however, I have written on the subject.

8. I have written to the Political Agent in Khandesh requesting him to direct the representative of the family of the late Jeewa Wussawa to repair to Nandod, as I am aware, until a settlement has been concluded between the Raja and that family, the object you contemplate, of opening a short and convenient channel of communication between Guzerat and Khandesh *via* Sakhbara, cannot be effected.

9. You will also be pleased on this occasion to ascertain, whether the different arrangements concluded in Rajpeepla remain unimpaired, but particularly that entered into between the Raja and the farmer of his seven principal districts.

10. The Gaekwar Government has issued instructions to its late Komavis-dars of Rajpeepla to send with you persons properly qualified to settle, in conjunction with the local Government, the amount of claims each mutually makes against the other on account of balances of revenue on the one hand and over-collections on the other.

11. You are aware of the arrangement lately consented to by His Highness the Gaekwar, to remit Rs. 45,000 of the last year's tribute, in consequence of

the calamity the tributary sustained from the overflowing of the river Nerbudda. There is also a balance of tribute due for Sumvut 1878 of Rs. 35,000, of which Rs. 15,000 must be remitted to Baroda in cash immediately; and the only way of meeting this demand is by borrowing the amount from the holders of the Government Potdar. The remainder of this balance is to be added to the Rajpeepla debt, for the gradual liquidation of which an arrangement has already been effected. The tributary, on the other hand, must agree to relinquish a part of its Geeras rights upon the Gaekwar districts of Sinnore and Koral, which suffered from the same calamity which has induced this Government to grant the above remission.

12. As I am aware the marriage of the young Raja cannot be longer deferred without infringing the Rajpoot customs upon this material point, you may authorise an advance of Rs. 10,000 beyond the Nemnook, towards defraying the unavoidable expense which such will occasion. The remaining portion of the extra expense which may be incurred must be provided for elsewhere, the situation of Rajpeepla being such as to render any further advance impracticable.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 3rd November 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 25th November 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, forwarding copy of your instructions to your Assistant, Mr. Willoughby, on his proceeding to Rajpeepla for the purpose of making a settlement with Bajee Daimen, and the Mehwasces of Tullukwara, which are approved by the Governor in Council.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 25th November 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,
To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 6th December 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, on deputation in Rajpeepla, reporting the measures adopted for the apprehension

of the Mehwasee Chiefs, and of my reply thereto, which I trust will meet the approval of the Honorable the Governor in Council.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 6th December 1823.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant to the Resident,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 27th November 1823.

SIR,—I have now the honour to report some preliminary measures which have been adopted, since my arrival in Rajppeepla, to effect a settlement with the Mehwasee Chiefs of Tullukwara, by either of the two modes prescribed in your letter of the 3rd instant.

2. I have naturally first turned my attention towards the practicability of apprehending them, without entering into any previous negotiation. The obstacles opposed to this are principally three—1st, the difficult nature of the country in which they are concealed; 2nd, the assistance they undoubtedly receive from the inhabitants of the villages which were lately taken from them and given over to the Government to whom they in right belong; and 3rd, the difficulty which, on this account, exists of procuring correct intelligence of their movements.

3. Over the first I can have no control, and it will remain in full force until March or April next, when the jungles may be in some degree cleared by burning them. The remedy for the second appears to rest with the Gaekwar local officers of Tullukwara and Sunkeera, who, I am sorry to report, do not appear to co-operate with us with the cordiality it is the interest of their Government they should do. They have not in any one instance given information regarding the Mehwasees, in the absence of which it is impossible for the officer commanding the Tullukwara Detachment to act with effect. I would, therefore, respectfully suggest that the Gaekwar Government should be urged to issue the necessary instructions to its officers, directing them to use their utmost exertions in aiding the British Government in its operations against the Mehwasees, and blaming them for the supineness they have hitherto evinced. They should be further instructed to take good security from the inhabitants of the villages under their control not to assist Bajee Daimen and his associates, and severely to punish any infraction of this agreement. The villages which are principally suspected of secretly affording aid, are those under the Thakoor of Wujeeria, and the village of Chooreswur, which are all connected with Bajee Daimen, the Chiefs being related to him. To remedy, if

possible, the third obstacle, I have employed through this Government a Bheel Turvee, or Chief, with forty followers, well acquainted with the country, who, if unable to seize them himself, may be able to give such intelligence as may lead to this desirable event. The incitement I have held out to him is not in the shape of a pecuniary reward or fixed pay, but the promise of a small Bheel village being granted to him in Inam if successful. I have thought this to be the most powerful stimulus I could hold out to him, the reward being entirely dependent upon the success of his exertions, and the village can with justice be selected from those lately recovered from the Mehwasees. It is also my intention, with your approbation (and in the event of other measures now in progress failing) to offer a considerable pecuniary reward to any person who may apprehend them or give intelligence which may lead to their apprehension. I am induced to believe you will concur in the expediency of such an offer being made, as likely to prove economical in the end, by doing away with the necessity of continuing the expense which the Chiefs now render necessary, at an earlier period than is otherwise likely.

4. As, however, I am extremely doubtful whether the above plan is likely to attain the object in view, at least for some time to come, I have thought it advisable to endeavour without delay to open a communication with the Chiefs, through the agency of a Rajpeepla Bhat, to induce them, if possible, unconditionally to surrender themselves into my hands, under an assurance of their lives being spared, and that a settlement will be eventually concluded with them, the precise terms of which, however, are to be dictated by the power into whose hands they surrender themselves. This overture is made without any hindrance to the continuance of offensive operations intermediately, which are not to cease until it has been acceded to without any reservation. Its acceptance will, of course, entirely depend upon the degree of distress the Chiefs may have been reduced to, and which, I am inclined to think, has made a strong impression, to which may be added, as another strong motive for acquiescence, the circumstance of their families being now in confinement at Baroda.

5. I shall be better able, when a reply to this communication has been received, to decide what measures seem best to be next resorted to. At present, in the event of non-acquiescence, there appears to be only one remaining mode of proceeding, viz. to grant the Chiefs amudrust Bhandaree to visit me at Nandod, and then to endeavour to effect a settlement with them. I have every reason to believe this invitation would be accepted, *i. e.* if any reliance can be placed in the sincerity of an offer (to that effect) made in a paper purporting to be from Bajee Daimen, lately found in Tullukwara and sent to me by the Officer commanding there. I am, however, averse to resorting to this measure for the present, it being optional with the acceptors of the

invitation to accept or reject the terms subsequently offered them, and, in the event of their doing the latter, ensuring them a safe return to the place from whence they came.

Trusting that the proceedings now reported will be approved of,

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assistant to the Resident,
on Deputation.

Camp Nandod, 27th November 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant on Deputation, Nandod.

Dated 4th December 1823.

SIR,—I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 27th ultimo, reporting some preliminary measures adopted in regard to the Tullukwara Mehwasées.

2. The Gaekwar Government will be informed of the supineness of its officers, and requested to enjoin more vigorous co-operation, and to direct the security you recommend to be taken from the villages under the control of the Gaekwar managers. If you have reason to think that a reward being offered for the seizure of Bajee Daimen, Omed Khan, Nusseer Khan, Surdar Khan, Bapoo Hulderwa, and Meea Jadoo is likely to be effectual, I have no hesitation in requesting that the same may be promulgated without delay: the sum may be from 1,000 to 5,000, as you deem necessary.

3. The plan of employing through the Rajpeepla Government a Bheel Chief and his followers, either to apprehend or at least obtain and furnish correct intelligence of the haunts of the Mehwasées, appears to me to be the most likely to be attended with success, as the Rajpeepla Government, from former habits, must be well acquainted with all the Mehwasées and with the nature of their haunts; and the proposed plan of remunerating him Government will of course make no objection to, they benefiting so much more than the Gaekwar by their dispossession.

4. I should wish, however, that the terms mentioned in my instructions be proffered to Bajee Daimen and his associates, with the exception of Bapoo Hulderwa and Meea Jadoo, and that the communication may be direct, as through circuitous channels other interests may perhaps be brought to interfere with the measure; their repairing to you at Nandod, as mentioned in the last paragraph of your despatch, appears the best mode of effecting my wishes.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 4th December 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 17th December 1823.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 6th instapt, forwarding copy of a despatch from your Assistant on deputation in Rajpeepla, reporting the measures adopted for the apprehension of the Mehwasees of Tullukwara, I have the honour to acquaint you that the Governor in Council approves of your instructions to Mr. Willoughby.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 17th December 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,
To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,

Dated 13th December 1823.

SIR,—With reference to my despatch of the 6th instant, I have the honour to forward copy of a further letter from Mr. Willoughby, in continuation of his proceedings connected with the Mehwasees of Tullukwara, together with my reply of this day's date, approving of the same.

2. From Mr. Willoughby's letter Government will learn with satisfaction, that he has succeeded in inducing one of these turbulent Chiefs unconditionally to surrender himself a prisoner into his hands, and that he has arrived at Baroda. Independent of the immediate object obtained by detaching Nusseer Khan from his two associates, it may have an ultimate beneficial effect upon the minds of the latter.

3. For the particulars of this event I beg leave to refer Government to my Assistant's letter, and have only to express a hope that his proceedings may be honoured with its approbation.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 13th December 1823.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant on Deputation in Rajpeepla,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 7th December 1823.

SIR,—With reference to the 4th paragraph of my letter dated the 27th ultimo, I have the honour to report that the Bhat employed by me to open

a communication with the Mehwassee Chiefs, returned on the 2nd instant, with the information that Bajee Daimen and Omed Khan were unwilling to accept the offer conveyed to them, but that Nusseer Khan seemed inclined to acquiesce in it, though prevented from doing so by the other two.

On the receipt of this intelligence, I immediately determined upon giving the three Chiefs amudruft Bhandaree to visit my camp, considering it to be a great object to detach Nusseer Khan, if possible, from his two associates; thus anticipating the orders conveyed in the last paragraph of your despatch of the 4th instant.

The Bhandaree was accepted, and the Chiefs arrived at Nanded on the 4th instant; and I was chiefly engaged on that and the following day in endeavouring to induce them to agree to the terms prescribed in my instructions, speaking to them both collectively and individually.

All at first most positively refused to repair to Baroda; but in my last interview with Nusseer Khan, I am happy to say he consented to proceed thither, to accept any settlement which might hereafter be proposed to him, and to remain a prisoner until he had furnished satisfactory security for his abiding by the same.

I have contented myself for the present with taking from him a written agreement to the above effect, which is herewith enclosed, and have forwarded him, with three attendants, to Baroda, under a military escort. I beg leave, however, to mention that this latter stipulation was principally proposed by me, with a view of ensuring his safe transmission to Baroda; but I should trust, on his arrival, it may be deemed expedient to release him on personal bail, since his so promptly surrendering himself upon the terms he has, appear to entitle him (however great his former misdeeds) to the clemency of Government.

Nusseer Khan is an old man, of about 50 years of age, and is evidently too infirm to be capable of much personal exertion. He was, however, the proprietor of the villages of Ulwah and Bheelthan, so much complained against by the Collector of Broach, and notorious for harbouring Meea Jadoo and Bapoo Hulderwa and other Geerasia offenders, who were assisted in their attacks upon the village of Kaveetha by Nusseer Khan and his followers, who also participated in the plunder they obtained. The submission of the Chief may, therefore, be considered an object gained of some importance. His former rights were not very extensive, being chiefly confined to a few Bheel villages lately restored to the Gaekwar Government by Captain Garraway, regarding which I shall procure all the information I am able, to enable you to decide what provision should be assigned for his future support.

Bajee Daimen and Omed Khan resisted from first to last all my endeavours to prevail upon them to accept the proposed terms. They would not

even consent to proceed to Baroda for the purpose of concluding a settlement, much less to relinquish permanently their present place of abode. They, however, expressed their willingness to agree to any arrangement I might propose on the spot, having for its basis permission to remain in Tullukwara—a proposal I could not, of course, pay any attention to, being so essentially at variance with my instructions. Finding all my attempts to persuade them to change their determination ineffectual, both by assurances of the advantages they would derive from doing so on the one hand, and by pointing out the probable evil consequences they were bringing upon themselves and families by not doing so on the other, I was compelled, though reluctantly, to direct them to be safely conveyed back to the place from whence they came, after which every exertion will be made to apprehend them by force of arms.

I am inclined to consider the failure of my attempts to prevail upon these two Chiefs to proceed to Baroda is to be attributed to their natural distrust and suspicion, and to their inexperience of the policy so generally pursued by the British Government towards persons in their situation, of forgiving past offences on security being furnished against their repetition. I am supported in this opinion from information I have received, of their sending with Nusseer Khan a person to acquaint them of the treatment he may meet with. I have not thought it expedient to take any notice of this circumstance, as in case they succeed in eluding the measures now in progress against them, they may hereafter be induced, on finding their late associate is treated with leniency, to follow his example, should the granting of permission to do so be considered advisable.

With reference to the allusion made in the 2nd paragraph of your despatch of the 4th instant to the Broach outlaws, Bapoo Mulderwa and Meca Jadoo; I have the honour to report that they have long since fled from the fastnesses of Tullukwara. The former was supposed, according to information received by Captain Garraway, to have fled to Kattewar, but the latter is stated by Nusseer Khan to be now residing in the town of Cambay. This intelligence cannot be entirely relied upon, but I doubt not you will consider it worth while to inquire into its accuracy. Nusseer Khan also confirms the report of the Veymar Koolies (who rescued Bugwan Rugoonath) having in the first instance taken refuge with the Tullukwara Melhwasees, and mentions that two of their number arrived wounded.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
Assistant on Deputation in Rajpéepla.

Camp Nandod, 7th December 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant on Deputation in Rajpeepla.

Dated 13th December 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 7th instant, in continuation of your proceedings with the Mehwassee Chiefs of Tullukwara, and in conveying my approbation of the same, take the opportunity of expressing the satisfaction I have derived from learning that you have succeeded in inducing one of them, Nusseer Khan, unconditionally to surrender himself into our power, which may finally induce his two associates to follow his example.

Nusseer Khan has safely arrived at Baroda, and will be released, according to your suggestion, on finding personal bail for his appearance, until a settlement of his rights is finally concluded.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 13th December 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 24th December 1823.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th of this month, forwarding copy of a despatch from your Assistant on deputation in Rajpeepla, in continuation of his proceedings connected with the Mehwassee Chiefs of Tullukwara, and to acquaint you that the Governor in Council approves of the measures adopted by Mr. Willoughby for inducing these turbulent Chiefs to submit to our authority.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 24th December 1823.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 13th January 1824.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit, for the information of the Governor in Council, copy of a report from Mr. Willoughby, dated the 7th instant, in

continuation of his proceedings with the Mehwasces of Tullukwara, and containing the satisfactory intelligence of his having induced another of their Chiefs, by name Omed Khan, unconditionally to surrender himself.

2. For the reasons stated in the 2nd para. of my Assistant's letter, I have agreed to the Chief alluded to being, for the present, permitted to remain at Nandod. I also fully concur in the propriety of the suggestion that his family, now in confinement at Baroda, be released on finding personal bail for their appearance.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 13th January 1824.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident on Deputation,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 7th January 1824.

SIR,—In continuation of my proceedings with the Mehwasces of Tullukwara, I have the satisfaction to report the unconditional surrender of another of their Chiefs, by name Omed Khan. This event is to be attributed to the measures I have already reported to have been adopted against them, but in particular to their being deprived in a great measure of the assistance they have hitherto derived from the inhabitants of the villages lately taken from them.

2. I have contented myself, for the present, with taking from Omed Khan a written agreement, nearly similar to that subscribed to by Nusseer Khan, forwarded in my letter dated the 7th ultimo, binding him to submit to whatever settlement of his affairs may hereafter be dictated to him. I have not for the present put him under restraint, or deprived him of his arms, although, at the time of surrendering himself, he tendered the latter for my acceptance. It is not either my intention for the present (with your permission) to forward him to Baroda, but to suggest his being allowed to continue at Nandod, as I am not without hope I may be able, partly through his means, to induce Bajee Daimen (the only Chief of consequence now remaining at large) shortly to submit on the same terms.

3. The rights of this Mehwassee Chief principally exist in Rajpeepla, upon which State he was formerly dependant. I shall have the honour hereafter to report upon them in detail, merely now observing, that whatever provision may be hereafter allowed to him and his family, must be chiefly paid by the Rajpeepla Government.

4. In conclusion, I take the liberty of suggesting, for your consideration, the expediency of the family of Omed Khan, now in confinement at Baroda,

(consisting of his wife, by name Umruttoo, his aunt Soorujboo, his daughter Phoolbaee, and three female attendants) being released on personal bail, which I am given to understand they are willing and able to furnish.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assistant Resident,
Camp Nandod, 7th January 1824. on Deputation.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 26th January 1824.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, forwarding copy of one from your Assistant, reporting the unconditional surrender of Omed Khan, a Mehwassee Chief of Tullukwara, and to acquaint you that the Governor in Council approves of Mr. Willoughby's proceedings respecting the disposal of this Chief and his family.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 26th January 1824.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,
To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 22nd February 1824.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, dated the 7th instant, reporting the unconditional surrender of the Mehwassee Chief Bajee Daimen, as well as that of a relation of Omed Khan, another of the Chiefs whose surrender has already been announced.

2. The above persons, with Omed Khan, have been safely delivered over to my custody. An investigation of their rights will hereafter be made, and a settlement of them be proposed for the sanction of Government.

3. For the particulars of this event I beg leave to refer Government to Mr. Willoughby's report. I cannot, however, refrain on this occasion from expressing the high sense I entertain of the value and importance of the services my Assistant has accomplished in successively inducing these turbulent Chiefs to submit without terms, which renders the final arrangements to be concluded with them easy to be effected.

4. The service rendered is of still greater importance at the present moment, when complaints are so frequent, all around, of the injury and loss sustained from the depredations of the ill-disposed. The Tullukwara Georaias having so long been celebrated for the resistance they have made against all lawful authority, and for the asylum they have afforded to the most notorious offenders of all descriptions, their submission will be the more striking, and likely to be attended with most beneficial consequences.

5. By the submission of these Chiefs the necessity of maintaining the Tullukwara Detachment has ceased, and it has, in consequence, been recalled to Baroda.

6. I beg leave, in conclusion, to bring to the notice of Government the favourable mention Mr. Willoughby makes of the assistance he has derived from the Karbaree of the Rajpeepla State throughout his proceedings with the Tullukwara Melhwasees; and it occurs to me to recommend that Purvoodas's conduct be noticed and rewarded by Government with some suitable mark of favour, as an example to others. I am given to understand that the Raja has for some time since wished to reward his Karbaree's long and faithful services by the grant of a village of small value in Inam, and I should deem the present moment a favourable one for carrying his intentions into effect.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 22nd February 1824.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident on Deputation,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 7th February 1824.

SIR,—It is with much satisfaction I have the honour to report the unconditional surrender of the Melhwasee Chief, Bajee Daimen.

2. Enclosed is the written agreement I have taken from him, which is exactly similar to the one subscribed to by Omed Khan, transmitted in my letter of the 7th ultimo.

3. It is necessary, however, to observe, that notwithstanding the willing acquiescence made by this Chief in my presence to surrender himself without any terms whatever, he subsequently evinced the greatest reluctance to act up to it when informed he must proceed to Baroda. I am happy to state that in the end I succeeded in persuading him peaceably to deliver up his arms, and to abide by his agreement. I have verbally promised him his life shall be spared, that he shall not be delivered over to the Gaekwar Government, and that he will only be retained a prisoner during the time which must intervene

prior to a settlement being concluded with him and his furnishing satisfactory security for abiding by the same.

4. I have made arrangements for this Chief, as well as Omed Khan, being transmitted to Baroda under a military escort, and have thought it right to request Lieutenant Bartlett, at present commanding the Rajpeepla Detachment, to proceed in charge of them, with directions to deliver them over to your custody. A distant relation of Omed Khan's has also surrendered himself into my hands, and will be sent to Baroda by the same opportunity.

5. I have found it necessary temporarily to withdraw the post at Mangrolee to Nandod, the escort to be sent with the Chiefs reducing the detachment at the latter place to a very few men.

6. All the Mehwasce Chiefs having now submitted, it will be comparatively easy for the Gaekwar and Rajpeepla local officers to preserve the peace of the country; and, in my humble judgment, no absolute necessity will now exist for the Tullukwara Detachment being still maintained to assist them. It will be necessary, however, for them to be vigilant in suppressing any petty disturbances which may be committed by the Mehwasce villages, which cannot be expected to cease at once. I have made the necessary arrangements with this Government, and hope that those which have been issued by the Gaekwar Government may be repeated on the withdrawal of the detachment, should such be deemed safe and practicable.

7. In conclusion, I have much pleasure in bringing to your notice the great assistance I have derived from Purvoodas, the Karbaree of this Government, throughout my proceedings with the Mehwasces; and it is chiefly to this aid I must attribute their successful termination. The contingent expenses which have been incurred, are very trifling considering the importance of the objects gained, and, with the exception of a few presents I have made to persons whom I found useful, have been defrayed by this Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assistant Resident,
on Deputation.

Camp Nandod, 7th February 1824.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

Dated 16th March 1824.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 22nd of last month, forwarding copy of one from your Assistant, on deputation

in Rajpeepla, reporting the unconditional surrender of Bajee Daimen, the Mehwassee Chief, and of that of a relation of Omed Khan, another of the Chiefs, whose surrender had been previously reported.

2. The Governor in Council fully participates in all the terms of commendation bestowed by you on the successful result of Mr. Willoughby's proceedings, and he begs that you will convey to that gentleman the expression of his entire approbation.

3. It affords the Governor in Council much satisfaction that you have thus been enabled to withdraw the detachment from Tullukwara.

4. Adverting to the concluding paragraph of your letter, I am directed to state, that it will be very gratifying to the Governor in Council to be informed, that the Raja of Rajpeepla has rewarded the services of his Minister with a grant of a small village in Inam, as appears to have been long contemplated; and, as far as the sanction of this Government is necessary, the arrangement has its entire concurrence.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 16th March 1824.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 14th April 1825.

SIR,—I have much satisfaction in forwarding the enclosed copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, on deputation in Rajpeepla, reporting the completion (on the part of the Gaekwar Government) by that gentleman of an arrangement securing the quiet and permanent settlement of the three Geerasia Chiefs so long in confinement at Baroda. This appears to have been framed with great care, and attention to the preservation of both the rights of the Government and those of the Geerasias, and in all respects is as favourable to the latter as they had any title to expect. All excesses, encroachments, or disputes have, as far as the nature of events will admit, been guarded against, and the securities are sufficiently respectable to warrant the indulgence of an expectation that this settlement will be lasting. Mr. Willoughby's conduct in the discharge of the various duties entrusted to him has, on many occasions, attracted the favourable notice of the Honorable the Governor in Council, and he has now the merit of having, as far as depended upon his own exertions, laid the foundation of a system (which was commenced in Rajpeepla by that gentleman) which promises to introduce into those jungles habits of peaceful industry, where for a series of years the most criminal excesses had been perpetrated

with impunity, from the natural strength of the country enabling the Mehwassee to bid defiance to the irregular bands of the Gaekwar, and where the most notorious offenders found a secure asylum. An important benefit has been conferred by these arrangements upon the Honorable Company's subjects in the Broach Purguna, who, as the records of that Zilla for the last ten years abundantly testify, were continually subjected to severe loss in lives and property from the barditti who lived unmolested in those fastnesses, from which a British detachment alone, after a considerable period, could entirely dislodge them. The Gaekwar and Rajpeepla subjects also participate in the benefit resulting from the perfection of this settlement. It is only requisite for me to add, that I fully concur in all the observations contained in the despatch, and that I entertain a confident expectation that the arrangement above reported will meet with the approbation of the Honorable the Governor in Council.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 14th April 1825.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident on Deputation,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident, &c. &c., Baroda.

Dated 6th April 1825.

SIR,—I have now the honour to report the particulars of the arrangement effected with the three Mehwassee Chiefs of Tullukwara lately in confinement at Baroda. That it was not in my power to recommend their enlargement at an earlier period is, you are aware, solely to be attributed to either their inability, or disinclination, to furnish until now good and efficient security for the due performance of their engagements.

2. The three bonds now forwarded are (with one exception to be noted) of a similar nature. Translation of the one, therefore, entered into with Dajee Daimen, the principal Chief, and his brother Vujoo Daimen, is only necessary and the remarks I shall now make will at once explain the nature of the three.

3. The engagement, consisting of seven Articles, after premising that it is entered into by the above two Chiefs for themselves and for their families, relations, and dependants, and alluding briefly to the circumstances which led to their coming to Baroda, stipulates in the 1st Article that the subscribing parties will for the future conduct themselves as peaceable Ryuts; will cease to commit depredations or make disputes with any one; and will obey the orders they may receive from the Thanas, or Detachments of Government troops, which at present or in future may exist.

4. The 2nd Article provides for the payment of the revenue, and rights of every description, which may be justly due to Government by the contracting parties.

5. The 3rd Article binds them to abide by and agree to whatever settlement may be made by Government of such of their rights, lands, and claims in the Gaekwar and Rajppeepla territory, as on inquiry may be found to be just.

6. The 4th Article renounces the right to all Geeras (not hereditary) which the parties may have established by lending money to different villages; promises to agree to any arrangement which may be made for the re-payment of the latter; and to cease from making any dispute, interference, or expense with any village direct, but to submit any which may arise for the arbitration of Government and abide by its decision.

7. The 5th Article stipulates for the restoration of all villages and lands the parties may have illegally become possessed of, and prohibits them in future from acquiring villages, lands, Pusaeeta or Geeras, either by purchase, mortgage, or gift, without the permission of Government.

8. The 6th Article prohibits the contracting parties from associating with or in the slightest degree harbouring outlaws and other disturbers of the public peace; binds them, if it is in their power, to deliver all such persons over to the custody of Government; makes them answerable for the claims upon such characters, together with a fine for associating with them; and stipulates that robbers traced to their villages are to be traced on to the next, or produced with the property they may have stolen.

9. The 7th and last Article stipulates that Bajee Daimen is to reside at Baroda for five years, from the date of the agreement, as security for its observance, at the expiration of which it will rest with Government to annul or prolong this obligation, with reference to the manner in which the parties may in the mean time have conducted themselves.

10. The agreement concludes by the contracting parties promising to suffer any punishment Government may think fit to award for the infraction of their engagements, for the performance of which their Wuttun, or entire estate, is pledged as security. A Baroot of the Baroda Purguna has become perpetual security for their good behaviour, as well as for their personal appearance whenever such is required. The counter-securities are the Thakoors of Ahmad and Wujeeria. The first, from his character and connection with the British Government, is most unexceptionable; the second is a petty Chief, possessing several villages in the Tullukwara Purguna, the principal of which is Wujeeria, and also bears a fair character.

11. I am not aware that any further remarks are required in elucidation of this settlement. The provisions of the bond are as just as they are strict, and

the securities exacted are as binding as could have been procured from persons of the class of the parties concerned. The objects mainly kept in view in framing the engagement were, 1st, to work a reformation in the habits of the parties ; to do justice to them by securing their rights, and justice to others by causing them to restore whatever possessions they had illegally possessed themselves of ; 2nd, to deprive outlaws and other ill-disposed persons in future finding an asylum they have so long obtained in the intricate jungles and fastnesses occupied by the Tullukwara Mehwasees, at the same time putting an end to the depredations of the latter so long carried on with impunity to the serious detriment of the peaceably disposed ; and 3rd, to prevent the necessity of Government being again obliged to put itself to the expense and inconvenience of adopting military measures for their suppression. Time alone will show whether these objects are attained. The parties to the present engagement have never been before tried, and it would be unsafe to place much reliance in their protestations, which are urgent and of a favourable nature. They have, however, felt severely the effects of their former misconduct, and I rely with more confidence to the fear they entertain of future punishment in case of misbehaviour, than on any written bond they might subscribe to.

12. With reference to the 3rd and 4th Articles of the bond, I beg to state that the rights therein alluded to are in a train of investigation and settlement. I shall not, however, be able finally to report upon them until I return to Baroda, a portion of the rights being claimed from the Gaekwar territory, an admission of which on the part of the Baroda Durbar is necessary prior to final adjustment. All villages and other rights to which an undisputed title is proved, will be restored with the least possible delay.

13. With reference to the 7th Article, I beg to observe, that I should not deem it necessary that it be at all times strictly enforced ; on the contrary, I should think that Bajee Daimen might occasionally be permitted to visit his villages, and that his being allowed to do so might be attended with beneficial effects. I thought it, however, most advisable that the stipulation for his residence at Baroda (which I conceive to be the most important of the whole) should be made without any reservation, so that his visiting his villages might be made entirely an act of grace and favour. I should however suggest, whenever permission to the above effect is granted, that from prudential motives his brother or some member of his family should reside at Baroda during his absence.

14. Bonds of an exactly similar nature to the above have been taken from Omed Khan and Nusseer Khan, with the exception that they are not required to reside at Baroda. The same Baroot who has become security for Bajee Daimen, has undertaken a similar responsibility on their account. The counter-securities are the Thakoor of Wujeoria before alluded to, Bajee Daimen,

and his brother Vujoo Daimen, which is the best they were able to furnish ; and taking into consideration the connection which exists between the three agreements, I think it is perfectly satisfactory.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assistant Resident,
Camp Tallukwara, 6th April 1825. on Deputation.

Translation of a Fuel Zamin Bond taken by J. P. Willoughby, Esquire, for the Gaekwar Government, from Bajee Daimen and Vujoo Daimen, Mch-wasees of Tullukwara, including their Families, Relations, and Dependants, dated the 14th of Falgoon Sood, Sumrut 1881, corresponding with the 18th March 1825.

In consequence of our improper conduct coming to the notice of Government, a force was equipped against us, which inflicted punishment upon us. Now through the beneficence of Government we have been directed to re-inhabit our villages, and to conduct ourselves properly for the future, according to the orders of Government, after the manner of Ryuts. Agreeing to this order, we, of our free will and pleasure, and in our right senses, subscribe to the undermentioned Articles of agreement :—

ARTICLE I.—We will reside in the country belonging to the Government after the manner of Ryuts, and transact our business in an equitable way. We will not commit any depredations, or make any dispute with any one residing in the districts of the Gaekwar Government, of the Honorable Company, of Rajpeepla, Chota Oodepoor, Gurh, or any other Talookdar. We will act in obedience to the instructions of the Thauas of Government which at present exist, or may in future exist.

ARTICLE II.—We will pay whatever revenue is due on account of the villages of Tullukwara belonging to Government, and will pay, according to the custom of the district, the levies put upon Oopurwureea land, besides Salamee and Batees according to annual custom.

ARTICLE III.—We have given to Mr. Willoughby a written paper giving an account of our just rights, lands, and claims upon persons residing in the districts of the Gaekwar Government and Rajpeepla. In whatever manner Government may arrange such of these as on inquiry shall appear to be just, we will agree to the same for ourselves and posterity from generation to generation ; according to this settlement we will abide, and receive whatever Government may choose to give us.

ARTICLE IV.—In several villages we have lent money and taken writings for Geeras in lieu thereof. We admit that we have no claim for the Geeras in

question, and we will agree to whatever arrangement Government may make for the repayment of such sums we have lent as on inquiry may be found to be just. From this time we will not make any dispute on the subject with the inhabitants of the villages in question. In future, if any dispute arise with any one regarding money transactions, we will petition the Government and act according to its order respecting the same. We will not directly make any dispute in future, with the inhabitants of the villages, and not take more than that awarded to us by the Government arrangement; nor will we cause expense to fall upon any village ourselves direct.

ARTICLE V.—We will restore whatever villages and lands situated in the districts of Government, or in those of the Talookdars, we may be found to have unjustly possessed ourselves of, when Government gives an order to that effect. In future we will not, without the permission of Government, either take on mortgage, buy, or receive as a gift, villages, lands, Pusaeeta or Geeras, from any one.

ARTICLE VI.—We will not associate with rebels and disturbers of the public peace of the districts of the Gaekwar and the Honorable Company, of Rajpeepla and the other Talookdars. We will not afford them an asylum, or permit any one to harbour them in our villages, or give them food, or allow any one to do so. If we are able, we will seize and deliver them over to the custody of Government. If it is proved that we do associate with any person of the above description, we will become answerable for the claims upon him and for a fine for doing so. If any robber is traced to our villages, we will carry on the trace to the next village, and establish the same upon it; otherwise we will produce the criminal and restore the property stolen.

ARTICLE VII.—To satisfy Government for the due performance of the above written articles, Bajee Daimen agrees to reside at Baroda for a period of five years from this date, living upon his own means. If it appears to the satisfaction of Government, in the course of five years, that we act in conformity to the above written agreement, and no infringement of the same occurs, then whatever orders Government may issue regarding releasing the hostage will be obeyed by us. In conformity to this writing he will remain as a hostage.

In this manner seven Articles of agreement have been written. If any infraction of the same take place from this time, whatever punishment Government may award we will agree to. For this agreement our Wuttun (estate) and Geeras are security; Rowjee Bawa Gymulsing Baroot, inhabitant of the village of Tarjoolja, of the Baroda Purgana, is perpetual security both for our good behaviour according to what is written above and for our personal appearance; and Rana Abelsing of the Kusba of Ahmood, and Rhatore Sahib Khan of Wujeeria, are counter-securities for the same. In conformity with

what is written above they will act, and cause us to act; they will be answerable for claims upon us, and cause us also to be so.

(Signed) For BAJEE DAIMEN, by the Mehta of the Thakoor of Ahmood.
 „ For VUJOO DAIMEN, by ditto.
 „ RAOJEE BAROOT.
 „ RANA ABEHSING (by his Karbaree Mehta Hurry Ram Dyaram).
 „ RANA KESREESING SUJAN SING.
 „ SAHEB KHAN, Thakoor of Wujeeria.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
 To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 25th April 1825.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 14th instant, with its enclosure from your Assistant on deputation in Rajppeepla, stating that an arrangement has been completed (on the part of the Gaekwar Government) for securing the quiet and permanent settlement of the three Geerasia Chiefs so long in confinement at Baroda, and to acquaint you that the Governor in Council approves of Mr. Willoughby's proceedings as reported in his despatch.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 25th April 1825.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,
 To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,

Dated 18th April 1825.

SIR,—The enclosed correspondence will, perhaps, induce the Honorable the Governor in Council to approve of my obtaining the acquiescence of the Gaekwar Government to my First Assistant, Mr. Willoughby, while on deputation, inquiring into and settling the claim of the Bheels of the Wusravee Purguna, belonging to His Highness the Gaekwar. While the present system of violence and deceit is pursued, no alteration in the habits of these people can be expected. I do not wish to interfere with the internal management of the Gaekwar district, but solely to mediate an arrangement between this class and their ruler, which it would be our duty to see properly attended to by both parties. I anticipate no objection from this Government, as His Highness himself some time back spoke to me on the subject, in consequence of my

bringing to his notice some complaint from the Agent to the Honorable the Governor at Surat.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident at Baroda.

Baroda Residency, 18th April 1825.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident on Deputation,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 8th April 1825.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 4th instant, with its enclosures; and in obedience to your instructions, I have, without delay, commenced a correspondence with Mr. Romer direct, upon the subject of the complaints lately preferred by the Raja of Mandvee against the Bheels of Wusravee and Rajpeepla.

2. The enclosed copy of my letter to Mr. Romer of this day's date, will inform you of the measures I have adopted with the Bheel Chieftains Kooer and Ryesingjee. I deem it very unfortunate that the Raja's complaint is couched in such general terms, no specific act of aggression committed by the above Chiefs being urged against them. The former being at the time in my camp, denied (as was to be expected) the charge in toto, and the latter will doubtless do the same. In the absence of all proof I am obliged, for the present, to content myself with adopting measures to prevent the Raja sustaining further injury, the nature of which is fully explained in my letter to Mr. Romer, to which I beg leave to refer.

3. In the 2nd paragraph I have stated it to be my opinion (and I think you will admit on good grounds) that the evil complained of principally originates from the unsettled condition of the Wusravee district. The excuse urged by the manager of the Attaveesee is by no means well grounded. I do not think unassisted he would be able to make the arrangements necessary to put an end to the evil altogether. By maintaining, however, a proper force (which it is not his immediate interest as farmer to do) to punish the guilty and protect the innocent, I have no doubt he himself might greatly check the excess complained of. The exactions, oppression, and bad faith which Native managers almost without exception are guilty of, added to the natural habits of the Bheels, are no doubt the permanent causes from whence these excesses originate. The prevailing scarcity may be stated to be an additional, though (it is to be hoped) temporary, incitement to their commission.

4. Being directed to suggest such measures as appear to me likely to provide a remedy for the evils complained of, I would recommend that security bonds be taken from all the Bheel villages of the Wusravee district, the nature of which might be similar to those which exist in Rajpeepla; these

from experience having been found to answer. The Gaekwar Government sometime since hinted, through its Minister, Wittul Rao Dewajee, not only that it would not object to, but that it was even anxious such an arrangement should be effected under your superintendence, or that of any one Government might select for that purpose, observing that it should not be confined to Wusravee, but extended to the whole of the Surát Attaveesee.

5. There cannot, however, be a doubt that the measure above proposed would altogether fail to attain the objects in view, if the local manager was subsequently left the same liberty he now possesses to oppress these rude tribes. If no check were imposed to prevent his doing so for the future, the only effect would be to place them for a time more in his power, and, by a necessary consequence, increase the extent and frequency of his exactions, which at present are only limited in proportion to his means for enforcing them. It would appear to me, therefore, to be bad policy consenting to assist the Gaekwar's Government in making a permanent settlement with the Bheels in question, uncoupled with a stipulation that such supervision be subsequently vested in the British Government, as would prevent their being oppressed and tyrannized over, and driven, as an only resource for a livelihood, to resume their usual predatory life. In the absence of such a proviso, I may, moreover, observe, that the humanity of the measure, as far as the Bheels themselves are concerned, (it being calculated to affect them in the manner I have hinted at) might with some show of reason be called in question.

6. It is no part of my duty to give an opinion whether such interference would be compatible with the nature of the present connection which exists between the two Governments; this is a point to be left to the decision of my superiors. I cannot, however, avoid observing, that such an arrangement would tend evidently to the advantage of both Governments; to the peace and tranquillity of the districts of both; and to the consequent welfare and benefit of the subjects of both.

7. In conclusion I must observe, that a detachment of British troops would be required to carry into effect the measures recommended, which necessity, in the present demand which exists for their services, must, I fear, prevent their early adoption.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident
Camp Tullukwara, 8th April 1825. on Deputation.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident on Deputation,
 To J. ROMER, Esq., Agent to the Honorable the Governor at Surát,

Dated 8th April 1825.

SIR,—I have been furnished by the Resident at Baroda with copy of your

letter dated the 30th ultimo, forwarding a complaint preferred by the Raja of Mandvee, relating to the injury his territory is suffering from depredations committed by the Bheels of the district of Wusravee, belonging to the Gaekwar, aided by those dependent on the Bheel Chieftains Kooer and Ryesingjee, subject to the Rajpeepla Government ; and I lose no time in conforming to the instructions I have received to correspond direct with you on the subject.

2. I must premise by informing you that the injury complained of, to my certain knowledge, principally originates from Wusravee. The Bheels of that district have long been notorious offenders ; they are under no check whatever ; no security for their good behaviour exists ; and it is not the apparent interest of the farmer to maintain such a force as would efficiently keep them in due subjection. Such being my conviction, it is with great regret that I am unable (in the absence of due authority) to adopt immediate measures for bringing them under proper restraint. I have been directed by the Resident to report the measures which the case appears to render expedient, and I do not apprehend any difficulty will occur in obtaining the consent of the Baroda Durbar to their early adoption.

3. Although I feel myself fully warranted in expressing the above opinion, I would by no means wish to be understood to imply the complaint against the Rajpeepla Bheel Chieftains to be without foundation. I know their character too well, to involve myself by making a pledge to the contrary in their behalf ; still, however, there is a material difference in their situation, compared with that of the Wusravee Bheels, for, as I shall now proceed to show, security has been taken from them, and other subsidiary measures have been adopted to keep them under control.

4. Kooer Wussawa, after having been long celebrated for the extent, frequency, and daring of his depredations, finally submitted to the terms prescribed to him in February 1822, and as the shortest mode of acquainting you with the nature of the arrangement he then agreed to, I enclose copy of my letter to the Resident at Baroda reporting its conclusion.

5. Although security was taken from him for the due fulfilment of his engagement, I did not rely so much upon it as upon other measures adopted (and detailed in my letters) to ensure this desirable object. These arrangements continue to exist, and I still look to them as more likely to restrain Kooer from returning to his former habits than any security he could give me. I am happy to add, the objects of the engagement have at least been partially obtained, for since its existence, a period now upwards of three years, I have received no complaints of any consequence against him, with the exception of those from Mandvee.

6. This Chieftain is fortunately now in my camp. On informing him of the accusation I had received against him, as was to be expected he denied its

truth in toto, and no specific depredation committed by him being alluded to in the Raja's letter, which is couched in the most general terms, it will be evident that I could not contest the point with him, and was obliged to take his assertion at present for granted. The case would have been very different had the Raja furnished any detail of the acts of aggression committed.

7. Finding myself in this predicament, I was obliged to content myself with taking from Kooer a written paper (copy of which is annexed) containing, 1st, the disavowal he had previously made (verbally) of the charge preferred against him, and agreeing to become responsible if it should be proved; 2nd, promising, on the part of himself and dependants, not to commit any depredation in future in the Raja's territories; 3rd, agreeing to preserve the peace of the district of Peepulwaroon, belonging to Mandvee, on receiving the stipulated *Rukhopoo* allowance of Rs.480 per annum; 4th and lastly, consenting to furnish satisfactory security for performing the obligations devolving on him on undertaking the office of guardian of the district in question.

8. The first stipulation was made, to be enforced in case you deem it advisable to recommend the Raja of Mandvee to claim compensation for any acts of aggression he may be able to prove against Kooer; and the second to prevent their recurrence. In reference to the third, it is necessary to observe, that it only embraces one of the Raja's districts, to which alone Kooer states his responsibility extends, the truth or falsehood of which can be only ascertained from the Raja. The fourth stipulation is to be conformed to with as little delay as possible. I do not think I should be able, to persuade Kooer to proceed in person to Surat: he possesses a greater degree of suspicion and distrust than the generality of his caste, to whom such feelings are so peculiar. I should therefore suggest (if you see no objection) the arrangement be finally concluded by myself, as I have naturally succeeded in inspiring him with some degree of confidence in the intercourse I have had with him.

9. Should you concur in opinion on this point, I shall be obliged to you to acquaint me whether the Raja admits that Kooer's responsibility simply extends to the district of Peepulwaroon, and whether he admits the amount of annual compensation claimed for performing the duties it entails on him. I should also wish to be favoured with information respecting the channel through which you propose the latter should be paid on security being furnished, whether direct by the Raja, through you at Surat, or through the Resident at Baroda.

10. In the event, however of your deeming it requisite that the settlement should be concluded at Surat, I can only suggest that an agent on the part of the Chief should wait on you for this purpose, as I do not think I could (for the reason assigned) persuade him personally to attend.

11. With reference to Ryasingjee, I shall commence by observing that I consider it much more likely for him secretly to connive at and perhaps participate in the profits arising from the depredations complained of, than Kooer Wussawa. His districts are contiguous to that of Wusravee, and he is connected more or less with the worst characters residing in the latter. I have observed that the Raja of Mandvee always couples the names of Kooer and Ryasingjee together. This, I conceive, may be an error, for although they are connected by marriage, a domestic quarrel has arisen between them; they never meet; and if my information is correct, have little, if any, communication with each other. It does not follow, therefore, that either party is to be considered implicated in the misdeeds of the other.

12. I enclose copy of my letter reporting the arrangement effected with Ryasingjee, dated 25th February 1822. I do this with the same view as that with which the engagement of the other Chieftain is enclosed, considering such will at once apprise you of what has already been effected to ensure their good conduct, and enable you to suggest any other measures for adoption likely to tend to the same object. I need not add that your suggestions will meet with every attention and my best endeavours with this Government to give effect to them.

13. The security offered by Ryasingjee I consider to be efficient, and if I fail in obtaining redress to the Raja of Mandvee from this Chief direct, I hope to do so through other means. I have the pleasure to enclose copy of a letter addressed at my suggestion to Ryasingjee by this Government, calling upon him to answer the complaint made against him, together with copy of one to the Thanadar of the district under whose authority he is in some measure placed. These letters appear to me to embrace everything necessary, under present circumstances, to ensure justice being done. The manner in which they may be received will enable me to determine if any ulterior proceedings are requisite.

14. Should the conciliatory measure adopted with the two Chieftains, Kooer and Ryasingjee, finally fail in inducing them to amend, there only remains one alternative, that of reducing them *vi et armis*; a remedy, however, which the present reduced state of the troops at Baroda will not, I well know, admit of being immediately resorted to. I should hope such will not become necessary, and should be the first to deprecate resorting to such an extremity, until the necessity was beyond doubt apparent. Although I feel well assured that the Bheels are a tribe who can only be reformed by first resorting to conciliatory and mild measures, and, on their failure, to others of exactly an opposite nature, I should be very unwilling, in the present instance, to believe that the latter were necessary, apprehending, as I do, that such would be the signal for the rising in rebellion of the greater part of the Bheel population of

these districts. I am sanguine that the measures now adopted will prevent such necessity. Ryesingjee, I have very little doubt, secretly encourages others to commit depredations, and may, moreover, share in the profit accruing from the same. He has, however, I believe, too much at stake, openly himself to commit them and bid defiance to Government: he derives considerable profit from cultivation and other peaceable occupations, and his villages are in good condition, taking into consideration the lax authority they are subject to. Of the continued good conduct and reformation of Kooer I am still hopeful, more particularly as I am now engaged in the pleasing duty of restoring to him some ancient rights, which will add to other motives which exist, to induce him to pursue a peaceable course of life.

15. Although I have trespassed upon your time at considerable length, I must briefly allude to the village of Wantia Sagh belonging to this Government, of the misconduct of which I am well aware. This village is situated in a place of considerable natural strength, in the midst of thick jungle. I recommended to this Government the adoption of measures for its subjection, as the inhabitants would not bear reason, and the complaints against them were numerous and well founded. About this time last year these were carried into execution; the offenders, however, at the time escaped, but their wives and families were apprehended. The village, according to Native custom, (which on general principles is much to be condemned) was burnt to the ground. Eventually, in consequence of the apprehension of their families, the principal offenders surrendered themselves, were fined, and gave as security for their future good behaviour the Bheel Chief Ryesingjee. I trouble you with these details, to convince you that there exists no backwardness on the part of this Government to do what it can to check the depredations of the ill-disposed. I have reason to believe that the inhabitants of the above village have again resumed their former occupations, and, in consequence, have suggested to this Government the expediency of instituting an inquiry on the subject, and calling upon their security to answer whatever complaints may by the result be proved to be well founded.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assistant Resident,
Camp Tullukwara, 8th April 1825. on Deputation.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant on Deputation, Rajpeepla.

Dated 4th April 1825.

SIR,—The enclosed copy of a letter from the Agent to the Honorable the Governor at Surat, would seem to refer the inability of the Gackwar manager

of the Attaveesee to control the Wusravee Bheels, to assistance afforded by similar classes situated within the Rajpeepla dependencies, who, from their vicinity to Wusravee, are said to be active in opposing any measures adopted for preserving public tranquillity. Although I attach small credit to this representation of the Gaekwar manager, I think it right to forward it to you, and request you will take such steps as, in your judgment, the case, if true, may require, and correspond direct with Mr. Romer on the subject. I shall be happy to receive any suggestion which may occur to you respecting the better management of the Wusravee district of the Gaekwar, being convinced that the excesses complained of principally take their rise in the unjust and oppressive conduct of the Gaekwar officers and their total disregard of the rights of the Bheel, and the uniform harsh, and, I will add, generally faithless treatment the latter have experienced from them.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 4th April 1825.

From J. ROMER, Esq., Agent to the Governor at Surat,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 30th March 1825.

SIR,—I do myself the honour to forward to you the enclosed copy of a letter from the Raja of Mandvee, relating to the serious loss and damage his district has lately sustained, from the predatory incursions of Bheels from the Wusravee Purguna and the Rajpeepla country, and stating his apprehensions of more extensive plundering being in contemplation by the Wussawas Ryesingjee and Kooer.

The Sursooba of the Attaveesee has, at my request, made some attempts to control the Wusravee Bheels, but without effect, for he has at last given me to understand, that from the contiguity of most of the Wusravee Wussawas' villages to Rajpeepla, they had no difficulty in evading his endeavours to seize them, or to make them furnish good security.

I have offered Kooer, on the part of the Raja of Mandvee, the regular discharge of his Rukhawalee allowance, upon his giving security to perform the obligations of it better than he has done; but it is not probable he will return to his duty while his secret connexion with Ryesingjee and the Wusravee Wussawas makes it more profitable to join in plundering the Mandvee district, than to exert himself in protecting it.

Ryesingjee and Kooer have given security to the Rajpeepla State I believe, but to what particular object their obligations extend I do not know. I would however hope, that through your good offices with the managers of that State, as well as with the administration of His Highness the Gaekwar, such orders

may be given and measures adopted, in Rajpeepla and Wusravee, as shall tend to preserve the Mandvee Purguna not only from the threatened attack, but lead to the establishment of some efficient control over the lawless population of both districts, from which the subjects of the Raja of Mandvee have suffered so severely.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. ROMER, Agent to the Governor.

Surat, 30th March 1825.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 29th April 1825.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 18th instant, forwarding copy of your correspondence with your Assistant on deputation in Rajpeepla, and the Agent at Surat, relative to the adjustment of the claims of the Bheels of the Wusravee Purguna, and to acquaint you that the Governor in Council approves of the measures you have proposed for the settlement of these claims, provided the free consent of the Gaekwar be obtained.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 29th April 1825.

MR. WILLOUGHBY'S SETTLEMENTS WITH THE MEHWASEE CHIEFS OF TULLUKWARA.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Dated 28th April 1825.

SIR,—I have considerable satisfaction in transmitting, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, copy of a very interesting despatch from Mr. Willoughby, dated the 26th instant, wherein, after reporting the nature of the securities he has taken from the whole of the Mehwasee Chiefs of Tullukwara, on the same principle as those furnished by Bajee Daimen* and his associates, he draws my attention to the circumstances of seven or eight Chiefs tributary or connected with the Gaekwar Government. These are in a deplorable state at present; but the country they inhabit is so strong by nature, and affords such facility to the escape of plunderers, that any arrangement which would tend to the amelioration of the classes dwelling therein would be advisable: if not, we may expect to be again called upon by the Gaekwar Government to afford our aid in chastising these people, as was the case two years back, when large Detachments were employed for a considerable period without effecting the object of inducing the submission of the Mehwasees, which only took place on Mr. Willoughby's repairing in person, when, from the influence he possessed from his acquaintance with the head of the Geerasias during his successive deputations to Rajpeepla, they were prevailed upon unconditionally to surrender.

2. The petty Chiefs are situated in the Rewa Kanta; in respect to them it now becomes indispensable that some arrangements for their supervision by British authority should, as soon as practicable, take effect. Previous to entering upon this subject, it is incumbent upon me in the strongest terms to express my conviction of the value of the services rendered by Mr. Willoughby to both Governments during the time of his supervision of the Rajpeepla Government, or for a period of upwards of five years.

3. The late settlement of the Mehwasees has been completed after much personal labour, and is entitled to high commendation. His Highness the Gaekwar has expressed his satisfaction at the arrangement, and I entertain not the slightest doubt of his ready acquiescence in the extension of the system to the other Chiefs mentioned, even if they had not been included in the arrangements which transferred the Mahec Kanta and Katteewar tributaries to the control of the British Government in 1820. That they have hitherto been

* Vide pages 777 to 779 of this Selection.

overlooked is no reason why they should be excluded from the benefit of this measure, of which they appear fully sensible from the petitions of the Rana of Mandwa and Thakoor of Gurh, referred to in Mr. Willoughby's despatch.

4. Should the Honorable the Governor in Council sanction the adoption of the plan proposed in regard to the Chiefs mentioned in the 10th para. of Mr. Willoughby's despatch, the whole tract of country extending from the western boundary of Rajpeepla to Chota Oodepoor to the east, and from the Taptee to the south and Nerbudda on the north, would be efficiently superintended. The advantages of such a general settlement are too manifest to require particular remark, and I beg leave to request the attention of Government in particular to the 7th, 11th, and 12th paras. of the despatch, as containing the fullest information on the points submitted; and it only remains for me to add, that I entirely coincide in the suggestions and views of my Assistant. It will not, however, I trust, be considered presumption on my part, if I respectfully intimate that, in my judgment, the labour and exertions of Mr. Willoughby in the performance of the extra duties entrusted to his charge, arising out of the nature of our connection with the Gaekwar and his tributaries, have not been compensated in a degree commensurate with the anxiety and toil they have occasioned.

5. The Agent employed in assisting the Pahlunpoor Government in the conduct of its affairs, from the first received an allowance from that Government; and latterly, since the petty Chiefs on the north-western frontiers have come under our protection, Government have been pleased to grant that officer an additional allowance. I may, moreover, add that the precedent at Pahlunpoor has often been quoted by the Rajpeepla Government, accompanied by a wish on its part to follow it, which is of itself the strongest proof of the manner in which it esteems the services rendered to it by Mr. Willoughby, though no attention has ever been paid to the request I allude to. When the newly contemplated arrangements take place, Mr. Willoughby's charge will bear a fair comparison with that of Pahlunpoor and with the local Agencies established by Sir John Malcolm and Sir David Ochterlony, and the Honorable the Governor in Council may then be disposed to take into consideration the reward for services actually performed during a period of more than five years, and the scale of remuneration which the increased duties that will necessarily devolve upon my Assistant would seem to demand.

6. In conclusion, I have to express my hope, that the above observations will not be considered as dictated by partiality or an undue opinion of the importance of the charge, but will be viewed as really flowing from a natural desire to see my Assistant obtain those advantages which other public officers similarly employed have enjoyed.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 28th April 1825.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., First Assistant Resident on Deputation,
To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 26th April 1825.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose fifteen original security bonds taken from the petty Mehwassee Chiefs of Tullukwara, in addition to those already forwarded in my letter of the 6th instant.*

2. These embrace the whole of the villages of the Tullukwara district, whose inhabitants principally consist of Mehwassees and Bheels, who have hitherto lived by plunder and depredation. They complete, therefore, the arrangement I have made for the future tranquillity of the whole district, to the fullest extent the authority with which I am at present vested will admit. The engagements now forwarded do not essentially differ from those taken from Bajee Daiment† and his associates, and do not consequently require any remark. I annex a statement, exhibiting the names of the principal Mehwassees who have given security, their places of abode, the security and counter-securities they have furnished, with their places of residence likewise.

3. With the exception of the first on the list, the whole are petty Chiefs, possessing from one to twelve small villages each. The Thakoor of Wujeeria, however, bears a good character; his family were originally Rajpoots, subsequently converted to Mahomedanism: he is, however, included in the present arrangement, because many of his villages are of the same description as the others.

4. The country in which these villages are situated is as wild and intricate as can be imagined, consisting of high hills, deep nullas, and rugged ravines covered with the thickest jungle. The parts that I have lately visited appeared to equal if not to exceed the worst parts of Rajpeeppla, in natural strength and in the facilities they afford for opposing and escaping a regular force in pursuit of any object: such being the case, no argument is required to show the expediency of rendering, if possible, the present settlement permanent.

5. On this occasion I beg leave to refer to the 5th and 6th paragraphs of my letter dated the 8th instant, relating to the turbulent tribes of the Wusravee district. I conceive that the reasoning there made use of applies with at least equal force to the present case, nor can I for a moment expect that the benefits of the present settlement will be permanent if it be confined to the security engagements now taken. The parties will, beyond doubt, be unable to meet the exactions and demands they are under the present system liable to from the Gaekwar officers. These they have hitherto met, when Government possessed the power to enforce them, by giving a share of the profits arising from their depredations, which they must again resume if the same

* Vide page 774 of this Selection.

† Vide page 777 of this Selection.

system is pursued. It does not require much foresight to predict the result. The Mehwasees will again become powerful, will again invite the worst of characters to join them, will retire to their fastnesses, and again (as lately) bid defiance to the Gaekwar Government and its officers, a dilemma from which the latter can only be relieved by a second interposition of the British Government.

6. The district of Tullukwara originally comprised a part of Rajpeepla, from whose Chief it was taken by the Gaekwar Government. There cannot be a doubt but that the condition of the Mehwasees residing in it has always essentially differed from that of Rynts strictly so called. They were a class of minor tributaries, a fact which is at once proved by the principal right due from them to Government being to this day denominated Ghansdana. At the same time I do not deny that the Gaekwar local officers can show a prescriptive title to levying other dues from them when they are able. This they may urge regarding their immediate in preference to their more remote pecuniary interests.

7. To obviate the evils of the present system, I beg leave to suggest the following proposals for the consideration of the Gaekwar Government, for the future management of all the Tullukwara Mehwasees who have furnished security, with the exception of the Thakoor of Wujeeria:—1st, that their rights be investigated, and subsequently guaranteed to them; 2nd, that the rights of Government of every denomination be ascertained, and, whenever practicable, the annual amount fixed in perpetuity, with reference to former collections and the present ability of the Chief to meet them; 3rd, in cases where circumstances will not admit of the annual amount being fixed in perpetuity, that it be fixed annually with reference to the quantity and quality of land the Chief may cultivate, and to the seasons; 4th, that the Gaekwar manager of the district of Tullukwara continue to collect whatever amount may be fixed direct, but that an appeal to the British Government be admitted on the part of the Chief against any extra exaction or oppression the former may commit; 5th, that the police and general control over the Chiefs be still vested in the same officer, with an appeal however against any abuse of his authority; 6th and lastly, that the managers of the districts of Dubhoy, Sunkeira, and Bhadurpoor be restricted from any direct interference with the Tullukwara Mehwasees, with whom they, properly speaking, have no direct concern whatever.

8. I should hope the adoption of a plan embracing the above provisions (with any modifications you may deem expedient) would render my present arrangements of permanent utility. With reference to the last stipulation, I beg to state, that the managers alluded to, exercise more oppression and tyranny over the Mehwasees than even the officer in charge of Tullukwara. They are in fact at present exposed to the exactions of three instead of one person. It was my intention to have brought to your notice the ruinous system which

prevails in the former districts at present under Meer Surfraz Ali, its effects being felt in the territory under my supervision ; but from circumstances which have come to my knowledge since my return to Baroda, I hope such will not be necessary, though, if I am mistaken, I shall not shrink from a duty (however disagreeable it may be) of reporting his conduct in detail, which I conclude cannot be fully known either to the Gaekwar Government or yourself.

9. Before I conclude this part of my letter, I beg to draw your attention to the accompanying representation from the Melhwasee Chiefs who have furnished security for their future good conduct. In it they candidly state that hitherto they have paid the Government demands by committing depredations upon the community, but that now, having furnished security to refrain from their predatory course of life, they will be unable to meet them, unless they are fixed with reference to their ability and ancient custom.

10. I now beg leave to bring to your notice the unsettled condition of the petty Rajpoot States of Mandwa, Wujeeria, Gurh, Dusgaum, Shanore, Agur, Nuswaree, and Punsallee, which are principally situated between Rajpeepla and Chota Oodepoor, and are more or less connected with the Tullukwara Melhwasees, many (if not all) of the villages belonging to them being inhabited by the same unruly and predatory classes of inhabitants. It follows therefore that to complete my present arrangement, and to render those concluded with Rajpeepla and Oodepoor more effective and secure, the petty States alluded to should be required to furnish security for their good conduct of a somewhat similar nature to those taken from all the other Gaekwar tributaries.

11. All the petty States above enumerated (with the exception of Gurh) are tributary to, or connected with, the Gaekwar Government. They are denominated Rewa Kanta tributaries, from their possessions being situated in the vicinity of the river Nerbudda, and under this denomination Rajpeepla and Oodepoor are included. The Gaekwar cannot, therefore, if he wished, dispute the propriety of a general control being vested in the British Government over them, a point which was set at rest at the time Rajpeepla and Oodepoor were proved to be included in the arrangement concluded in 1820 respecting the Mahee Kanta tributaries.

12. I would propose, therefore, for your consideration, the propriety of security engagements being taken as soon as possible from the eight petty Chiefs alluded to ; that the tribute and other dues they may owe to the Gaekwar Government be investigated and consolidated in one amount, to be paid annually through the British Government ; and that the rights of the Chiefs be also inquired into, and such as may be proved to be just, be admitted for the future.

13. The advantages of this plan are too evident to require particular remark ; they are briefly alluded to above. Independent of the general

tranquillity of the country which will be promoted by it, it will secure to all parties their just rights, and remove from the Chiefs the tyranny and oppression they are now subjected to from the Gaekwar local officers. The grand road from Guzerat to Malwa leads through or near the possessions of these Chiefs, and its safety will be greatly increased by the adoption of the plan suggested. This is a point of primary importance since the re-occupation of Mhow by the troops of this Establishment, and will become of still more importance should the plan of transporting stores by the Nerbudda as far as Chanode or Tullukwara be ever carried into execution.

14. In conclusion, I annex two petitions from the Rana of Mandwa and the Thakoor of Gurh, praying that a settlement of their affairs be made by the mediation of the British Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, First Assistant Resident.

Baroda Residency, 26th April 1825.

Translation of a SECURITY BOND, passed under date the 7th April 1825, to J. P. Willoughby, Esquire, Assistant Resident at Baroda, on the part of the Honorable East India Company and of His Highness the Gaekwar, by Rathore Sahib Khan Ruheem Khan, his Brothers, Nephews, and all the Subjects of Wujecria, Purguna Tullukwara.

The Sirkar, in consequence of being informed of our improper conduct, came and awarded punishment on us. Now the Sirkar has been pleased to order us to settle in our villages and to conduct ourselves peaceably as Government subjects. Agreeing to abide by that order, we, with our own free will and pleasure, pass this security bond to the Sirkar. The Articles thereof are as follows:—

ARTICLE I.—We, as Government subjects, shall follow our lawful trade in their territories; and that we shall not make a feud with any person residing in the jurisdictions of the Honorable Company and His Highness the Gaekwar, or with any one of either the Rajpeepla, Oodepoor, Gurh, or other States; and that we shall abide by whatever orders will be issued to us by the several Government Thanas now in existence, as well as by those which may hereafter be established.

ARTICLE II.—We shall pay Jumabundee to the Tullukwara Purguna in the same proportion as items may be fixed to be levied on the Khalsa villages of His Highness the Gaekwar; and the assessment for cultivating the Ooperwaria land will be paid according to the custom of the Purguna. The Sulamee and Babtee will also be annually paid agreeably to former years' payments.

ARTICLE III.—We have presented you with a detailed memorandum of our just claims for Hucks, land, and money, in the Government as well as in the

Rajpeepla districts. Whatever, therefore, we may be found fairly entitled to on an investigation into the same, and whatever way the Sirkar decides the same to be received, will be agreed to by us and our posterity, brothers, and nephews. We shall act accordingly and receive whatever the Sirkar may cause to be paid.

ARTICLE IV.—We hereby forsake our claims to Geeras which has been assigned to us by certain villages in lieu of loans advanced to them; and whatever amount the Sirkar fairly decides on that account in our behalf will be agreed to by us, but that we shall in no way indirectly interfere with the villagers in the matter. That in future, when we have any dispute with another person for debts or dues, we shall represent the same to the Sirkar, whose orders thereon will be upheld by us, but we shall make no quarrel with the villagers, nor receive from them more than what the Sirkar decides in our favour. We shall not also indirectly charge any village with expenses.

ARTICLE V.—If it appears to Government that we have encroached upon, or illegally obtained possession of any village or land belonging to the Government Mahals, or the districts of the Talookdars, &c., we shall restore the same to its rightful owner directly after we are ordered to do so by Government; and that in future we shall not, without the Sirkar's order, hold in mortgage, purchase, or receive as grant, any village, land, or Pussaeta and Geeras appertaining to another person.

ARTICLE VI.—We shall not be friendly with any Bharwuteea offender of either the districts of the Honorable Company or His Highness the Gaekwar's Government, or of those of their subordinate Talookdars of Rajpeepla, &c.; nor shall we afford, or allow any one in the village to afford, asylum or protection to any criminal; that if such an offender be found, we shall apprehend and make him over to the Sirkar; and that in the event of our being convicted of being friendly to any Bharwuteea offender, we shall be responsible for the same. Further, that if the footprints of a robber be tracked to our village, we shall trace them on to another village, otherwise we shall produce the robber and award compensation for the property plundered.

ARTICLE VII.—Whatever amount the Sirkar may fix on account of Ghansdana to the Tullukwara Purguna at the time they have proceeded into the districts for that purpose, will be paid by us as usual and for ever through the Komavisdar of that Purguna; the Hucks due to the Rajpeepla and other Chiefs will also be paid to them as usual and for ever, and we shall obey them.

We have thus entered into the above seven Articles. If we deviate from them, we will agree to whatever punishment Government shall think fit to impose on us. We pledge our Wuttun and Geeras for the strict adherence on our part to this agreement. Barote Bawabhaee Rugnathdas of Guwur, Purguna Nandod, in Rajpeepla, will permanently stand as our security that we shall, as above described, conduct ourselves peaceably; that he will answer for any

misdemeanor on our part, and that he will produce us whenever required. Rathore Hamud Khan Mota Bawa and Hemut Dajee Bawa, of Nungaum, also stand as counter-securities on our part, who will act, or make us act, according to the above, and answer, or make us answerable, for any accusation against us.

(Signed) RATHORE SAHIB KHAN RUHEEM KHAN, and others,
including Brothers and Nephews.

I hereby declare, that I have, with any own free will and pleasure, become annual and perpetual security, on the part of Rathore Sahib Khan and others, of Wujeeria, against their misdemeanor, and to produce them whenever required. Shree Ramjee.

(Signed) *Security*—BAROTE BAWABHAAEE RUGNATHDAS, inhabitant of Guwur, Purguna Nandod.

We, Rathore Hamud Khan Mota Bawa and Hemut Dajee Bawa and others, including brothers and nephews, hereby inform the Honorable Company and his Highness the Gaekwar's Governments, and their subordinate Talookdars, that we have, as above mentioned, become annual and perpetual counter-securities (on the part of Rathore Sahib Khan and others of Wujeeria) for their peaceable conduct, and that, if they do not behave themselves towards both the Governments in the manner above described, we shall personally be answerable for the same. In the handwriting of BADHURWA.

We have, as above said, become counter-securities.

(Signed) RATHORE HAMUD KHAN MOTA BAWA.
„ HEMUT DAJEE BAWA.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Statement exhibiting the Names of the Melwasee Chiefs of the Tullukwara Purguna, their place of Residence, the Names of the Security and Counter-Securities they have furnished for their good behaviour, and the place of abode of the latter.

No.	Names of the Chiefs furnishing Security.	Place of Residence.	Fuel Zamin, or Security.	Arr Zamin, or Counter-Securities, and Residence of the same.
1	Sahib Khan Ruheem Khan, for himself, family, relations, and dependants.	Wujeeria . . .	Barote Bhawabhace, of the village of Goward, Rajpeela.	Rathore Hamud Khan Mota Bawa and Hemut Khan Dajee Bawa, of the village of Nungaum.
2	Rathore Sutbawa, Dajeewa Rathore, and Hamud Khan Mota Bawa, for themselves, families, relations, and dependants.	Nungaum ..	Ditto ..	Sahib Khan Ruheem Khan, Thakoor of Wujeeria.

No.	Names of the Chiefs furnishing Security.	Place of Residence.	Fuel Zamin, or Security.	Arr Zamin, or Counter-Securities, and Residence of the same.
3	Chura Ram Sing and Dadabawa Dadjee bin Narsing, for themselves, families, relations, and dependants.	Wulooria	Barote Bhawabhaee, of the village of Goward, Rajpeela.	Sahib Khan Ruheem Khan, Thakoor of Wujeeria.
4	Rathore Dadabawa Deenajee, for himself, family, relations, and dependants.	Shewadoon . .	Ditto ..	Ditto ditto.
5	Dinner Bhadurbawa, Tulchbhoy Dinner Bhye, and Bawa Jeetabawa, for themselves, families, relations, and dependants.	Oochand	Ditto ..	Daimen Bajee and Daimen Vujoo, of the village of Tullukwara.
6	Gover Dulle Zafer, for himself and family.	Nulleca	Ditto ..	Bhadur Bawa Futtehbhoeye.
7	Daimer Kooshall Bapoo, Omed Ariff, Bajee Vudder Vooddeen, and Ruheem Haebbhoye, for themselves, families, relations, and dependants.	Rengun	Ditto ..	Bhadur Bawa Futtehbhoeye, with Daimen Bajee of Wasun.
8	Gover Verum Bapoo, Dadee Omed, Nuhumbar Khan, Bhalbhoye Ullubhoeye, and Jora Vujoo, for themselves, families, and dependants.	Chooviswar . .	Ditto ..	Bhadur Bawa Futtehbhoeye, Bhoeye Bawa Jetabawa of Ooched, with Omed Ariff, of the village of Rengun.
9	Gover Hattim and Futteh Nannoo, for themselves and families.	Jeeral	Ditto ..	Bhadur Bawa Futtehbhoeye, and Bhoeye Bawa Jetabawa, of Ooched.
10	Sathee Deimer wulud Shurbhoeye, and Nannoo Nathbhoy, for themselves and families.	Wasun	Ditto ..	Kooshall Bapoo, Omed Ariff, Bajee Baddervoodun, Ruheem Haebbhoye.
11	Ugwan Sirdar Khan Koobera Khan, for himself and family.	Veerumpoora .	Ditto ..	Ditto ditto.
12	Gover Futtehbhoeye Bawa and Nannoo Nathbhoye, for themselves and families.	Kamsoler	Ditto ..	Hemut Motee Bawa Hemut, of Nuna-gaum.
13	Raj Goman Sing, for himself and family.	Baunshe	Ditto ..	Rana Sonbawa, of Shimore.
14	Ranee Jut Sing Goman Sing, for himself and family.	Bhaloda	Ditto.	
15	Rana Sonbawa, for himself and family.	Para	Ditto.	

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Baroda Residency, 26th April 1825.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the ASSISTANT IN CHARGE, BARODA.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Williams' letter, dated the 28th ultimo, submitting copy of your despatch, on the nature of the securities which you have obtained from the whole of the Mehwasee Chiefs of Tullukwara.

2. The plan now proposed seems highly desirable, but before any further steps are taken, the Governor in Council directs that the Gaekwar's consent be first obtained to it; for, although that was granted in 1820, it has been allowed to lie dormant so long, that it requires to be mentioned again before it is acted on.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 23rd May 1825.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident in Charge, Baroda,
To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 7th October 1825.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches dated the 29th* of April and 23rd† of May last, and to report what I trust will be considered the successful termination of my negotiations with the Baroda Government, to obtain its acquiescence to the measures referred to in those despatches, proposed with the view of completing the arrangements submitted by the Resident for introducing a political supervision over Dowlut Rao Sindia's possessions in Guzerat.

2. My discussions on this subject have been conducted either personally with His Highness the Gaekwar or his Minister Wittul Rao Dewajee, and I am happy to report I experienced no difficulty in obtaining their assent to the general spirit of the measures proposed, after fully explaining to them their nature and the objects of the British Government in suggesting them.

3. This Government, however, was anxious, previous to its acquiescence being recorded, that the principles on which the measures were to be carried into effect should (in order to prevent future discussion) be explicitly defined. Hence sundry references to its local officers became necessary, and this circumstance will sufficiently account for the delay which has occurred in transmitting my present report.

4. I shall now proceed to recapitulate the contents of Memoranda received from the Baroda Durbar, containing the result of these discussions and

* Vide page 787 of this Selection.

† Vide page 797 of this Selection.

inquiries, accompanying my summary with such explanatory remarks as appear called for. I may premise, however, by stating it to be my opinion, that the terms on which this Government gives its assent to the measures in question, are for the most part unobjectionable, and suited to the condition of the districts affected by them, though they are of course subject to the approval of Government, or to any modifications it may be pleased to suggest.

5. Enclosure No. 1 is translation of a Memorandum referring to the excesses of the Bheels of the Wusravee district, and to the measures proposed to check them. This I shall pass over without comment, inasmuch as the Gaekwar Government consents without reservation to the plan submitted in my letter to the Resident dated the 8th of April last, and approved of by the Honorable the Governor in Council in the first of your despatches now under reply.

6. Enclosure No. 2 is translation of an answer to a written communication sent by me to the Baroda Durbar, proposing the arrangements submitted in my letter to the Resident, dated the 26th of April last, for concluding settlements with the Rewa Kanta tributaries, with the Mehwasee Chiefs of Tullukwara, and with the Mehwasees of Sowlee, and other Gaekwar districts contiguous to those belonging to Dowlut Rao Sindia. This does not either call for observation, as it only refers to Enclosure No. 3, which is translation of another Memorandum, containing the terms on which this Government wishes these settlements should be concluded.

7. This document commences by enumerating the districts, Zumindars, and Mehwasees included in the present arrangements, which will be found to be considerably more comprehensive and numerous than the list which accompanied my letter of the 26th of April, which in fact principally referred to the district of Tullukwara. No return of the Mehwasee villages of Sowlee having been as yet received from the Komavisdar, the precise number could not be stated; but I am induced to believe that they will be found on inquiry to be upwards of twenty in number. A reservation follows this enumeration, that all villages not mentioned, similarly situated to those which are mentioned, are to be considered as included in the same settlements.

8. Five Articles are then introduced prescribing rules for ascertaining what villages are to be considered as included in the present plan, and those which are not. They are briefly as follows:—The 1st prescribes that wherever Tulput and Wanta lands are found to exist, such village is to be considered as belonging to Government, and not as a tributary. This is a good criterion for general adoption, inasmuch as it is founded on the well known division of the soil which was made between the aboriginal possessors of this province and their Mahomedan conquerors, in the proportion of one-fourth to the former, designated Wanta, and the remainder to the latter, called Tulput. As, however, in some cases this rule might disturb long established possession and prescriptive

right, I have provided for cases of this description by obtaining the consent of this Government to the introduction of the 2nd Article, declaring that where these two distinctions of the soil have ceased to exist, and have been blended together by the proprietor, he paying a fixed revenue, such village is to be considered tributary, and embraced in the present plan.

9. Article the 3rd stipulates that villages not belonging to, but simply leased to Zumindars by the officers of Government; are to be considered as the property of the latter, and not of the former. This is free from objection as a general rule, but for a similar reason and object as that given for the introduction of the 2nd Article, it is coupled with the 4th, stipulating in spirit that the 3rd is annulled in cases where its adoption would trench upon long established possession. The 5th Article, moreover, provides for the confirmation of the enjoyment of Tulput in conjunction with Wanta lands held by grants from former Governments.

10. A stipulation is then made that the management of half of the town of Chanode, at present vested in a Gaekwar local officer, is not to be affected by the present arrangements. This must be conceded, half of the above town belonging exclusively to this Government.

11. A definition of the principles on which a settlement of the tribute to be paid to this Government from the towns and villages to be placed under British authority is then given. His Highness wished that the first should be the only mode of assessment to be in every case adopted, to which it was impossible to accede. The two last were subsequently added, and which, I am of opinion, provide for every possible contingency of distress or any other circumstance, which may render the adoption of the first rule impracticable.

12. Two Articles are next introduced, stipulating the mode by which the tribute is to be paid. In the cases of the larger townships, the tribute is to be paid through British agency, or in other words, they are to be placed exactly on the same footing as the Katteewar and Mahce Kanta tributaries. In the cases of the smaller Melwasee villages, the tribute is to be fixed by the same agency, but to be paid direct to the local officer. This is in exact conformity to the mode proposed in my letter of the 26th of April last; and in the latter case, it may be observed, the stipulation that the local officer is to adopt measures in communication with the agent for the recovery of tribute overdue, imposes a check against his resorting to undue measures of severity.

13. The succeeding Article confirms the Zumindars and Melwasees in the enjoyment of rights of every description, rejecting however all claims on their part of a later date than ten years. This limit should not, however, I conceive, be made to extend to cases where the claimants possess written proof of the justice of their claims, and the period during which they have ceased to enjoy them is not immoderate.

14. The six following provisions, introduced with the view of securing the Government villages against molestation from the Melhwasees and Geerasia proprietors, do not require any observation, inasmuch as they are in conformity with the custom of the country, and suited to the condition and habits of those affected by them. They can be inserted in the security bonds which it will become necessary to take from these classes.

15. The next Article provides for the settlement of boundary disputes, which may arise between the tributaries and Government villages, whenever practicable by the Native system of Panchayet (or jury of five), and on failure of this mode, through the Agent of the British Government.

16. Then follows a stipulation confirming Wanta rights due to the tributaries from the villages of Government, payable according to the custom of the country, but liable to no increase; and generally providing for the adjustment of disputes arising between the tributaries and the inhabitants of the Government villages, through the mediation of the Agent of the British Government. The subsequent Article enjoins that protection be afforded to respectable persons, bankers, and Bramins, against oppression and injustice from the tributaries, to such an extent as is warranted by existing custom.

17. I endeavoured to persuade this Government to relinquish the claim it stipulates for in the succeeding Article, but was unsuccessful. The occasions on which the tributaries will be called upon to make the Nuzeranas referred to will not be frequent, and the conclusion of the Article provides for their being exacted with reference to the condition of the tributaries.

18. The Articles providing against all future encroachment of the Melhwasees; for their independence in their own villages in their transactions with the religious orders; restricting them from resuming charitable grants of remote existence; from levying more than the usual duties upon the Chanode wood-cutters; and providing for the payment of the usual dues in cases of adoption, but securing to them hereditary succession, appear unobjectionable.

19. The 10th Article provides for the settlement, in perpetuity, of tribute and other dues which this Government claims from some of the tributaries, payable every alternate year, when a Moolukgeeree circuit is made of the Rewa Kanta. If this claim have foundation, I conceive it cannot altogether be rejected. If, however, as I have some reason to believe, it is untenable, the Article is virtually annulled by the concluding stipulation, that the claim is to be only recognized on the production of substantial proof of its justice.

20. The insertion of the 12th and last Article was quite unnecessary; but this Government is anxious to guard against the contingency of the Jageerdars of the districts of Tullukwara and Sowlee preferring a claim founded on the present arrangement, for other districts being assigned to them in lieu of those they at present hold. With such a demand the British Government would

have no concern. It is not, however, likely that the caution of this Government will prove to have been necessary ; for, although the tyranny and oppression hitherto exercised by the Jageerdars over the tributaries to be placed under our control will be checked, whatever they may lose in consequence will be made good to them by the increased peace and prosperity of their districts, which will eventually ensue from the cessation of the former and substitution of the present system.

21. In conclusion I take this opportunity of reporting the receipt of a demi-official communication from Captain Macdonald, apprizing me that he had instructed the managers of the petty State of Baria to obey all orders they might receive from hence, and to prefer all complaints they might have to make to the Resident. An agent has waited upon me for this purpose, and has represented the peace of the above petty State to be endangered by the adherents of the late Karbaree, and by the turbulent Naikra Bheels residing in Dowlut Rao Sindia's districts. On the other hand, however, I have received numerous and frequent complaints from Sindia's manager against the excesses of the Baria and Loonawara Bheels. I have been obliged for the present to confine myself to addressing letters to the parties complained against on both sides, and requesting that measures be adopted for preserving the peace of the country and restraining the excesses complained of.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident in Charge.

Baroda Residency, 7th October 1825.

ENCLOSURE No. 1.

Translation of a Memorandum from the Gachwar Government, dated 23rd Mohurram, Sunna Fusli 1226, (A. D. 7th September 1825).

A letter has been received from the Residency, dated Jest Wud 7th, A. D. 7th June 1825, the several paragraphs of which are to the purport that the disorderly Bheels of the Wusravee Purguna cause great disturbances in the Surat and Broach districts, and that complaints are constantly making against them by the Collectors of those Zillas, and Mr. Romer the Political Agent in Surat, and that it is evident to Government that the local authorities are inadequate to adjust the differences or preserve the peace. Therefore, on the representation of the Resident, Government has addressed a letter to him, dated Wushak Shood 11th (A. D. 29th April 1825), directing that a gentleman should be sent from the Residency to make a settlement with these people on the spot, and, inquiring into the actual possessions and claims of Geeras due to these Bheels, &c., fix them for the future. Upon which the letter above alluded to

requests that instructions may be sent to the Sursooba of the Attaveesee, and the Komavisdar of Wusravee-Purguna, that they guide themselves by the advice of this Agent. In reply to this we answer, that we have much at heart the adjustment of the differences and making settlements with these troublesome people; therefore letters shall be addressed by this Government to the Sursooba of the Attaveesee that the settlements are to be made, but no injury thereby caused to the Purguna.

ENCLOSURE No. 2.

Translation of a Memorandum from the Gaekwar Government, dated Mohurum 23rd, Sunna Fusli 1226, (A. D. 7th September 1825).

A letter has been received from the Residency, dated Jest Wud 7th, A. D. 7th June 1825, the several paragraphs of which relate to the adjustment of the affairs of the Mehwasces and Zumindars of the Rewa Kanta (banks of the Nerbudda), and stating that the security for good behaviour, and security for the securities of Bajee Daimen and Vujjoo Daimen, Mehwasces of Wussun, and Nusseer Khan of Ulwa, and Omed Khan of Paun Tulouri, altogether three papers, and further similar securities from fifteen Mehwassee villages having been obtained, copies of these were separately enclosed for our information. To this we reply, that the above-mentioned four documents so sent, are received. With respect to the settlement in the Rewa Kanta alluded to, this Government has had the matter in consideration, and has sent a separate Memorandum of Articles of settlement with the Mehwassee Zumindars, which will explain the views entertained on the subject.

(True translation)

(Signed) R. H. KENNEDY, Translator.

ENCLOSURE No. 3.

Translation of a Memorandum from the Gaekwar Government, being arrangements for the Settlement of the Mehwasces of the Rewa Kanta, (without date).

I.—The following is the list of the Mehwassee Zumindars in the districts :—

1. The Purguna of Sinore, containing Shanore and the three Maundwa Towns—Maundwa, Nundurria, and half the town of Chanode.
2. The Purguna of Sankaira Naswary, having twelve towns and four villages dependent; and Augur, consisting of Augur and Seesana.
3. The Purguna of Tullukwara, containing nine towns, as shown in the statement of the Komavisdars—Wujeceria, Oochad, Choveyswar, Pulsane, Para, Beelooria, Nullia, Balodra, Jecral.

4. The Purguna of Saolee. No statement has been sent by the Komavisdar of this district of the Zumindars or Melhwasee villages; therefore, when the return shall be made, the Zumindars and Melhwasee villages therein shall be included in the arrangements to be controlled in conformity to the five following Articles.
5. The ten Geerasia villages, termed Dugauñ. For the above-mentioned villages belonging to Melhwasee Zumindars, or if on inquiry others should be found which have been overlooked, that is to say, for all villages that from any distant period have paid fixed revenues through the Zumindars, the following Articles are agreed to for the investigation of their rights and their better government:—

ARTICLE I.—In whatever town shall be found Tulput and Wanta lands, and from any remote period the fixed revenue has been paid through the medium of the Zumindar, it is to be understood that from the circumstance of their being Tulput land the town belongs to Government.

ARTICLE II.—If in any town Tulput land shall be found, which the Zumindars have united from any remote period with Wanta lands, and the revenues for past generations have been paid in one sum, such towns are to remain in possession of the Melhwasees, and the settlement of future revenue to be made on the present investigation.

ARTICLE III.—In such towns as have been let on farms by Komavisdars to Zumindars, and retained by them without their having any just right to the same, and the fixed revenues paid by the Zumindars as fixed by the Komavisdars, such towns are not to belong to the Geerasias but to Government.

ARTICLE IV.—If any town has been from a very remote period in possession of a Zumindar, and such town held by his ancestors or other Geerasias, then, in consequence of such long possession, he shall be confirmed therein, and the settlement of the future revenue to be made in the present investigation.

ARTICLE V.—If in any town the Zumindar shall possess Wanta lands, and hold also Tulput lands by grants of forty or fifty years' standing, or by grants from former Governments, by the production of such grants the town shall remain in possession of the Melhwasee, and the settlement of future revenue to be made in the present investigation.

In this manner is the revenue of the Melhwasee Zumindars to be adjusted; but the half of Chanode now consigned by Government to the charge of a Komavisdar is to remain as at present.

In settling the revenue from the Melhwasee villages, an average of the last

ten years, including Khurajaat Babtees, &c. must be fixed for a perpetual tribute; but in forming the ten years' average, no year of famine or invasion must be reckoned, for if they be, it cannot be expected that in future years of calamity a reduction can be consented to. In this manner the Agent is to make the settlement, in communication with Government.

When any Zumindar is completely impoverished, then, in communication with Government, a five years' agreement is to be made with him, commencing with smaller payments suited to his means, until the fifth year, when the lawful tribute is to be paid.

If, however, any Zumindar is so situated as that his affairs cannot be comprehended under either of the above provisions, then the Agent, in communication with Government, shall make the best arrangements that circumstances will admit, for a fixed perpetual revenue for the future.

The following is the manner in which, in conformity to the settlement, the Mehwassee Zumindars of the several Purgunas shall yearly give security to the Komavisdars of the same, to pay the revenue without any reduction:—

1. The Thakoor towns belonging to respectable Zumindars—Wujeery, Sinore, Maundwa, Augur, Nuswary, Palsoni, and Dusgaum—total seven towns, and any other place held by any respectable Thakoor, shall pay revenue as fixed by the present settlement, through the medium of the Resident, year by year, to the Komavisdar.
2. The smaller Mehwassee villages must pay their revenue, as fixed by the present settlements, to the Komavisdar; and if any one delay payments, the Komavisdar is to make it known to the Agent, and raise the money in communication with him.

II.—*The following are the Articles of arrangements to be entered into with the Mehwassee:—*

A. Whatever claim the Zumindars may have on their respective villages under the several heads of Geeras, or Wanta, or Dahn, or protection money (Rukkopa), shall continue to be paid by Government, as they are now established. They shall not be added to, and if any old or frivolous claims are advanced, if they are founded on precedents within the last ten years, they are to be admitted for investigation, and the Agent, giving them due examination, shall decide upon them; but if the claim be of anterior date to ten years, Government is not to be required to answer them. And in whatever village the Zumindar receives protection money he is to protect it, and if the village sustain injury he is to make good the loss, according to the local customs in such cases.

B. *Arrangements for the protection of the Villages in the Districts from Mehwasee Geerasias.*

No Mehwasee Zumindar shall afford protection to plunderers or robbers ; and if thieves belonging to any Zumindar's villages commit depredations or outrages in the districts, and loss be thereby sustained, then the Zumindar guilty of having sheltered them shall make good the losses so sustained, agreeable to the custom of the country, unless he can prove that the thieves have passed on beyond his lands : if he cannot do this, he must make good the loss.

The sums at present paid under the denomination of Geeras, are to be continued at the present rates. No extortion or violence to be practised on the Ryuts on that account ; and reparation will be enforced for injuries, if any injury be done to the Ryuts.

C. In whatever towns belonging to Zumindars any Geerasias may have fixed their residence, it is optional with them to remain and enjoy their rights at present enjoyed, such as Geeras, Ranwuttia, Wachun, and Pusaceta ; but they are not under these pretexts to advance additional demands, or give vexation or alarm to the villages ; and if any injury be done by them to any village, the Zumindar who protects them will be compelled to make good the same, and to deliver up the persons of the offenders.

D. The Mehwasee Geerasias having hitherto been constantly in the practice of carrying on private wars one with another, this is to be discontinued, and the injuries to the peaceable villages consequent on such hostilities are not to be allowed. No infringement of public peace will be permitted to pass with impunity.

E. If people of disorderly habits belonging to Zumindars' villages enter peaceable villages for purposes of depredation, and any affray ensue and any of the offenders fall, the villagers are not answerable for what is done in self-defence, and no compensation to be demanded from them.

F. The Zumindars in their respective villages are independent to entertain or discharge Rajpoot Koolies or others, or give them Pusaceta lands or monthly pay, or to invite settlers into their villages ; but if they discharge people of disorderly habits, their being let loose on the country may be injurious to the peaceable districts : such people, therefore, previous to being discharged, are to be bound over under double security to good behaviour, and in case of this being omitted, and their committing depredations, the Zumindar through whose neglect this befalls will be made answerable for the consequences.

III. The limits of the several towns in the districts as now received are to be continued, and if at any time or in any place there should be boundary disputes betwixt the Zumindar and Government villages, the claims on both sides are to be made known to the Agent, who will settle them after careful examination ;

but if they can by mutual arbitration of Punchayet settle the dispute amicably, there will be no necessity for his interference. In matters of this kind no injury or oppression is to be allowed against the Government villages, and if it shall appear that the Zumindars have in any case encroached on or appropriated lands belonging to Government villages during the last five or ten years, the encroachments are not to be permitted, and claims or complaints are to be adjusted by the Agent.

IV.—The Zumindars shall continue in undisturbed possession of the Wanta rights they at present enjoy in Government districts, nor suffer any molestation on account of counter claims of Tulput, &c.; but whatever villages pay Wanta are to pay the same to the customary amount only for lands actually under the plough, and fees due to Government from lands of that tenure are to be paid as heretofore, and on all Wanta lands whatever has been hitherto paid by the cultivating tenants respectively shall continue to be paid, and no increase permitted; and in case of Geerasias incurring debts to inhabitants of Government villages, or Zumindars dependent on Government, or merchants or others, and for the settlement of the same, or as compensation for public offences shall assign their rights of Wanta, or the produce of Wanta or Geeras, such shall be confirmed and no opposition offered to the arrangement. Precedents of former customs to be received as law, and if, on the other hand, Government Komavidars or villagers have encroached on lands belonging to Zumindars within the last ten years, on their showing proofs of the same, the Agent, in communication with Government, is to restore the same; and if, in the manner above described, any Zumindars shall have assigned over Geeras or Wanta rights to Government Ryuts, and cause molestation to the present possessors, the Agent is to examine into and decide on the claim.

V.—The Zumindars in their respective villages hold the government over the population of the same; but if they are found guilty of oppression or injustice to respectable persons, or Sowcars, or Bramins, the same, agreeable to custom, is subject to investigation and to be settled.

VI.—Whenever the Royal retinue of this Government proceeds for religious ceremonies to the banks of the Nerbudda, the customary tribute (Nuzerana) and preparations are to be expected from the Zumindars, but if any are impoverished, Government will take it into consideration and demand less.

VII.—The Zumindars are not in future to be allowed to obtain lands without the approbation of Government under the different denominations of Wachun or Pusaeeta or any other term. The Melwasee Geerasias are a turbulent race, and their increase is to be deprecated. This is to be made known on the part of Government to the villages.

VIII.—The Zumindars are independent in their several villages respecting Bramins, Bhats, and other religious mendicants as to their Pusaeeta or alms,

to give or withhold the same ; but they are not to deprive them of any ancient possession bestowed for charitable purposes.

IX.—Sundry Bramins and others, traders in Chanode, are wont to send wood-cutters to the hills to cut timber, which is brought down the Nerbudda in rafts. On this timber the Mehwasees are to levy no more than the customary duties, for if additional duties were put on, the timber could not be brought, and injury would accrue to this Government ; therefore, the Mehwasee Zumindars are to be warned on this head.

X.—The Jumabundee dues levied every alternate year by the Rewa Kanta Moolukgeeree, including Khurajaat Babtees (extra levies) of every description, are to be fixed in perpetuity upon those by whom they have hitherto been paid. Respecting these, written proofs shall be separately furnished.

XI.—If any Mehwasee Zumindar, being without offspring, wishes to adopt a child as his heir, he may do so according to law established, paying the customary fees to Government ; and when any Zumindar dies, his heir, near or remote in relationship, may succeed as has hitherto been the custom, the same being duly made known to Government.

XII.—The district of the Purguna of Sowlee is given to Meer Umceen ool Deen Hoossain Khan as his Jageer for his Risalla, and the Purguna of Tullukwara to Ramrow Anajee as his Jageer for his Pagah, both districts being thus assigned to special purposes by Government in Doomada. In case the Jageerdars may show the wish to exchange their districts in consequence of the arrangements, &c. with the Mehwasees being in future to be transacted through the Agent, this will not be attended to ; the respectable Zumindars are to pay their tribute through the Resident to these Jageerdars, and the inferior Mehwasee villages to pay theirs as already provided for.

(True translation)

(Signed) R. H. KENNEDY, Translator.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the ASSISTANT IN CHARGE, Baroda.

Dated 22nd October 1825.

SIR,—Since the despatch of my letter of the 17th, I have had the honour to receive and lay before the Honorable the Governor in Council your despatch of the 7th, reporting the successful termination of your negotiations with the Gaekwar Government regarding Dowlut Rao Sindia's possessions in Guzerat.

* * * * *

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 22nd October 1825.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 8th February 1826.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit, for the information of the Honorable the Governor in Council, copy of a letter from Mr. Willoughby, reporting his intended departure from Baroda to assume charge of his situation of Political Agent in the PUNCHMAHALS and the Rewa Kanta tributaries.

2. Annexed also is copy of my letter and its enclosure to Mr. Willoughby, containing such instructions as I conceive necessary on this occasion.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 8th February 1826.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Political Agent,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 5th February 1826.

SIR,—The detachment of the 20th Regiment N. I. directed to be placed at my disposal having arrived at Baroda, I have the honour to report it to be my intention (with your previous concurrence) to proceed forthwith in the execution of the duties of my recent appointment, and to request you will be pleased to favour me with such instructions as you may conceive necessary, in addition to those I have already received.

2. I shall proceed, in the first instance, direct to Dowlut Rao Sindia's PUNCHMAHALS, and to the petty State of Baria, this being the most unsettled and disturbed portion of my charge. After having carried into effect the necessary arrangements in these districts, and obtained all the information regarding their past and present condition which may appear useful or requisite, I shall make a circuit of the several Gaekwar districts connected with them, visiting each, as well as the petty States of Oodepoor, Rajpeela, and the Rewa Kanta tributaries in person, concluding with the district of Wusravee, for the purpose of carrying into effect the instructions of Government for concluding settlements with the Wusravee Bheels.

3. I take this opportunity of requesting to be favoured, at your earliest convenience, with the instructions of Government on the different points referred to in my letter to Mr. Newnham, dated the 7th of October last.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

Rajpeela and Powaghur PUNCHMAHALS,

Political Agent's Office, 5th February 1826.

. POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,
To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., &c. &c. &c., Baroda.

Dated 8th February 1826.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5th instant, and in reply to acquaint you that I entirely concur with you in opinion respecting the expediency of your proceeding without delay into the Punchmahals to assume charge in person of the new Agency, and also of the order in which you propose to proceed in effecting the important duties committed to your charge.

2. The whole of the correspondence which preceded your appointment being known to you and having in part been conducted by yourself, those detailed instructions which would otherwise have been called for are rendered unnecessary, independent of which the experience you have obtained here and in Rajppeepla of the tempers and dispositions, the customs and usages of the Governments, petty States, and turbulent Chiefs with whom you will so frequently come in contact, precludes the necessity of detail.

3. I shall therefore simply refer you to the official correspondence with which you have already been furnished, and particularly to my letter and its enclosures to the Chief Secretary to Government, dated the 16th November 1824, and to the general instructions from Government contained in Mr. Newnham's despatch of the 17th October last.

4. The different authorities noted in the margin have been apprized of your appointment, and have been requested to correspond with you direct in all cases where the general tranquillity of their respective jurisdictions, or the rights and claims of individuals, are connected with the districts of the petty States embraced in your present charge. Copy of the circular letter addressed on this occasion to the authorities referred to, is annexed for your information.

5. I have the honour to enclose orders issued by the Gackwar Government to the Komavisdars of the districts noted in the margin, directing them to assist you in carrying into effect the arrangements entrusted to your execution, and to furnish you with all the information you may require from them. It will, however, be advisable that you should delay concluding final settlements with the Rewa Kanta tributaries until your return to Baroda, when they will be the more easily fixed in direct communication with this Government. A reference will in the mean time be made to the Honorable the Governor in Council, for the instructions solicited at the conclusion of your letter, respecting these tributaries.

1. Agent to the Honorable the Governor at Surat.
2. Political Agent to the Supreme Government at Bopawur.
3. The Political Agent Mahce Kanta.
4. Collector of Broach.
5. Collector of Kaira.

1. Sowlee.
2. Dhubhoy.
3. Bahdurpoor.
4. Sunkeira.
5. Tullukwara.
6. Sinnore.
7. Wusravee.

6. Captain Foquett, the Officer commanding the detachment of the 20th Regiment Native Infantry ordered to accompany you, has received instructions to place himself under your orders, and His Highness the Gaekwar has consented to a detachment of about 200 irregular horse being placed at your disposal.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 8th February 1826.

(Circular.)

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

To the AGENT TO THE HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR at Surat.

The POLITICAL AGENT TO THE SUPREME GOVERNMENT at Bopawur.

The POLITICAL AGENT IN THE MAHEE KANTA.

The COLLECTOR AT BROACH.

The COLLECTOR AT KAIRA.

SIR,—I have the honour to acquaint you that the Honorable the Governor in Council has been pleased to appoint Mr. Willoughby Political Agent to the undermentioned districts, with the authority usually vested in officers of this denomination, and have to request you will be pleased to correspond direct with that gentleman on all subjects in which the tranquillity of that part of your jurisdiction contiguous to his charge is concerned, and in all cases where the interests or rights of individuals under your authority may render his interference or friendly mediation necessary. On the other hand, Mr. Willoughby has been authorised to communicate with you in all cases of a similar nature, affecting either the general peace of the districts committed to his superintendence, or the rights and claims of the Governments on whom they are dependent, or their inhabitants.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. District of Champaneer <i>alias</i> Powaghur..... | } | Belonging to His
Highness Dow-
lut Rao Sindia. |
| Ditto of Hallele | | |
| Ditto of Kallale | | |
| Ditto of Godra | | |
| Ditto of Dokud | | |
| Ditto of Jhallode | | |
| 2. District of Sowlee | } | Belonging to His
Highness Syajee
Rao Gaekwar. |
| Ditto of Wagonia..... | | |
| Ditto of Sunkeira..... | | |
| Ditto of Bhadurpoor | | |
| Ditto of Tullukwara | | |
| Ditto of Wusravee | | |

3. Petty State of Rajpeepla.....	} Belonging to different tributary Rajas.
Ditto of Mandwa.....	
Ditto of Chota Oodepoor	
Ditto of Gurh	
Ditto of Baria	
Ditto of Rajghur Chutrussee	

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 6th February 1826.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 13th March 1826.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 8th ultimo, forwarding copy of one from Mr. Willoughby, reporting his intended departure for the Poonmahals, together with your instructions to that gentleman on the occasion.

The Governor in Council concurs in Mr. Willoughby's sentiments, as communicated in his letter dated the 7th October last,* on the terms proposed by the Gaekwar, and authorises the adoption of them, with the exception of Articles V. and VIII. of Enclosure No. 3,† which the Governor in Council conceives to trench on the independence of the Zamin-dars, and should not be acceded to unless it can previously be ascertained from those Chieftains that they contain nothing contrary to former practice.

In conclusion, I am directed to observe that the Governor in Council approves of your instructions to Mr. Willoughby.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 13th March 1826.

No. 93 of 1826.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,
To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 13th March 1826.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose copy of Mr. Willoughby's letter to my

* Vide page 797 of this Selection.

† Vide pages 802 to 807 of ditto.

address, with its enclosure, of the 25th February last ; the earlier transmission of this report has been delayed by my indisposition.

2. This communication details his proceedings, in pursuance of the instructions issued to the Political Agent, in accordance with the orders of Government, on his proceeding to the Puncmahals to enter upon his new charge. The conference with Dowlut Rao Sindia's manager, explained to that authority the nature and duties of his situation and the line of action intended in future to be observed towards the wild classes of Naikras, Bheels, and Meh-wasees, in the reasonable expectation of inducing them, by the stimulus of hope of immediate good and fear of punishment, to relinquish the evil courses they have been so long accustomed to pursue.

3. The means proposed do not seem to have entirely met with the Manager's acquiescence, who took another view of the subject, and desired that a more summary mode of procedure should be adopted towards them, one more consonant to Muratha usage ; this was of course very properly objected to by the Political Agent. After some further observations, the issuing of joint summonses to the Chiefs was resolved upon, and in most cases these were attended to ; but since of course a system of perfect confidence could not at once be established, it became necessary to grant Bhat security for the personal safety of the Chiefs summoned, which in some instances was demanded.

4. On the arrival of the Chiefs in camp, the new order of things was carefully explained to them, and securities were then taken from the Meh-wasees and Naikras for their future good conduct.

5. The Manager here wished an investigation and settlement of various claims against these Chiefs to be entered into by the Agent, who very judiciously represented to him the propriety and policy of postponing such a subject of irritation until the peace of the districts had in the first instance been perfectly secured.

6. I observed that many of the principal Chiefs of tribes had attended the camp readily, and among them the notorious Thakoor Humeer Sing, who, with some others, long the scourge of the vicinal districts of the Gaekwar, have one and all agreed to furnish security for future good behaviour.

7. The translation of the security bond forms an enclosure to the Political Agent's report, and is in my opinion unexceptionable in its terms. I beg leave to refer the Honorable the Governor in Council to the document, and I am hopeful that these retaliations and plundering excesses will now be put an end to.

8. I attribute the early and ready attendance of all the Chiefs to the well known character of Mr. Willoughby, established by the uniform tenor of his proceedings in Rajpeepla and the Gaekwar districts in the Nerbudda, where he successfully introduced a better order of things, than had been ever known

in that country for years; but I entertain great doubts of the cordiality of the Manager, for it seems that notwithstanding he assented to the terms of the security bond, yet he absurdly enough desired to exact similar ones from the Mehwasces of his own districts as well as those of the Gackwar, on his own authority; this desire Mr. Willoughby at once checked.

9. The measure of defraying the expenses of the Mehtas and Peons proposed to be entertained and stationed in the different places enumerated, for the purpose of intelligence, is judicious, and might be paid by the Gackwar and Sindia Governments, whose territories are so much benefitted by the arrangement, the charge of which at present is exclusively borne by the British Government.

10. These proceedings, now submitted, are entitled to credit from the temperate and judicious firmness of the Agent, as opposed to the violence of the Manager.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 13th March 1826.

No. 7 of 1826.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Political Agent,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated the 25th February 1826.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch and enclosures, dated the 8th instant, and to report my arrival in the Powaghar Punchmahals, and the commencement of the duties entrusted to my agency.

2. On the 15th instant I was visited by Untajee Rao Damodur, the present Manager in this province on the part of Dowlut Rao Sindia, on which occasion I delivered the order issued by his Government, intimating to him my appointment and its general objects.

3. I embraced this opportunity of explaining to the Manager in detail the instructions I had received, informing him that my attention had been principally directed towards effecting settlements with the Mehwasce and Naikra population of these districts, avoiding all interference in the internal administration of the country exclusively belonging to Dowlut Rao Sindia. I also explained the nature of the arrangements I proposed in the first instance endeavouring to effect with the rude tribes above referred to, the basis of which I need scarcely remark is founded in the exercise of good faith and conciliation towards them, an almost general amnesty for the past, preventive measures for the future, and a reciprocal security for their own rights and those which may be due to the Government to whom they owe allegiance.

4. Considering the system, so radically different from the above, which has been so long and systematically pursued in this province, I was prepared to expect my plans would not meet with the Manager's entire approval. He unequivocally declared they did not meet with his concurrence, and strongly urged the necessity of coercive measures being resorted to, such as the destruction of villages and their inhabitants, and the infliction of retributive justice (as he termed it) for past offences, observing it to be his opinion, that no satisfactory settlements could be effected without first creating an impression of fear and terror in the minds of those with whom I had to deal. I mildly but decidedly discountenanced the resorting to such measures until those I had proposed should fail, or except in cases of the most urgent necessity.

5. In the course of this interview, the Manager admitted that all the Naikra Chiefs, and many of the Mehwasées, were not sufficiently under his authority to warrant the expectation that they would obey a summons issued direct through him; but notwithstanding this admission, which was perfectly correct, he most inconsistently objected to my procuring their attendance by any other means. I informed him it was altogether immaterial to me by what channel the summons was issued, provided it ensured the attendance and obedience of the parties summoned, but that after the above admission on his part, I thought it would be most expedient that a joint summons, conveyed by his people, should be issued in the name of the Gwalior Government by both of us. After some hesitation this proposition was agreed to and adopted, and though hitherto it has generally succeeded, in some instances I have been obliged to have recourse to Bhats of the country, to induce, by assurances, the Chiefs to come in, many of them not having as yet full confidence that any ameliorating change in the system hitherto pursued towards them is intended.

6. My attention is now principally directed towards exacting the most efficient security and counter-securities procurable from the whole of the Mehwasée and Naikra villages included in this Agency. The Manager wished me to enter on an immediate investigation and settlement of numerous claims he had to bring forward, but acquiesced in the propriety of such being postponed until the peace of the country had been secured.

7. It affords me great satisfaction in being able thus early to report the peaceable submission of the greater part of the Mehwasée Chiefs of the Hallole and Kallole districts, viz. of the former eleven, and of the latter twenty-two, and among them that of the Thakoor Humeer Sing, whose extensive depredations in the Baria territory, formed the subject of my letter to the Chief Secretary to Government dated the 9th of November last. It is with still greater satisfaction (as being more unexpected) that I am able to report a similar submission of the principal and most notorious of the Naikra Chiefs residing in the jungly tract of country which surrounds the Hill of Powaghur and

Champaneer, whose excesses in the districts of Sunkeira, Dubhoy, &c. have been so often complained of by the Gaekwār Government. The latter were induced to come in after considerable hesitation, and under the greatest dread and distrust of the treatment they would meet with ; but I soon succeeded in removing these impressions, by assurances of future safety and just treatment, on relinquishing their present predatory and abandoned pursuits. They have in consequence agreed to furnish security for their good conduct, and have submitted to such other arrangements as yet proposed for their future government and restraint.

8. I shall hereafter have the honour to report the nature and details of these and other arrangements now in progress when they have been extended throughout my charge, accompanying the same with tabular and explanatory statements. I take, however, the earliest opportunity of submitting, for your information, copy and translation of a security bond which has already been obtained from the Mehwassee Chief of the village of Kunjerree, and several others, tributary to or in allegiance to the Gwalior Government, and which I propose uniformly to obtain from all the Chiefs of this description within my charge, whether subject to His Highness the Gaekwar or to Dowlut Rao Sindia. I should have wished to have obtained your approval of its general nature previous to carrying it into effect, but the season being so far advanced does not admit of further delay in commencing entering into these engagements with these classes, who are very numerous. I am however induced to believe that the bond will be considered unexceptionable, and adapted to the present state of the country and the customs and habits of those from whom it is demanded. It appears to me to embrace, in the most comprehensive manner, every object which it is desirable to secure and obtain ; to contain the strictest provisions for securing the tranquillity of this province ; to check the excesses and outrages which have reduced it to the brink of ruin ; to restrain and provide for the adjustment of all dissensions and disputes among the Chiefs themselves ; to secure the just and ancient rights and claims of every description due to the Government on the one hand, and those of the Mehwassee Chiefs on the other ; and finally to place the investigation and settlement of both entirely and unreservedly in the hands of Government. The engagement consists of fifteen Articles, the object and tendency of each of which being sufficiently manifested, I shall confine myself to giving the above general outline of its nature, referring you for details to the deed itself. The security required for the due observance of the engagement is of a mixed nature, consisting, 1st, of the possessions and whole property of the Chiefs being pledged on their part for its observance ; 2nd, the security of Baroots for the same ; and 3rd, the counter-security of two, three, or more Mehwassee Chiefs of vicinal villages, the whole in the aggregate constituting a complete Sanklee Zamin, or connected chain of security, which

I trust, when once generally set in motion, will only require a constant vigilance and supervision on my part to maintain and keep unimpaired.

9. The engagement was, in the first instance, submitted for the information and opinion of the Manager, with a request that he would suggest any addition or modification in its terms which might appear to him expedient. With the exception, however, of one or two verbal alterations, it received his unqualified acquiescence. In giving this assent, however, the Manager intimated it to be his desire, to exact separate bonds of a similar nature, not only from the Mehwasées of this province, but from those subject to the Gaekwar Government in the adjacent districts—a request altogether inadmissible, inasmuch as it implied the resumption of the system, in which the necessity of the establishment of this Agency originated.

10. The 14th Article of the agreement refers to a measure to which I beg the sanction of Government, viz. to the entertaining of five or six District Mehtas, with Peons attached to each, on a salary of from 20 to 30 rupees each, in proportion to the extent and importance of their respective charges and their relative conveniences or inconveniences, for the same purposes and objects as those employed on the north-western frontier of Guzerat under the Political Agent at Pahlunpoor. This is the only mode which occurs to me likely to ensure my being kept constantly apprized of the state of affairs and events occurring throughout the extensive range of country included in this Agency. I shall require from the persons entertained for this duty, security for their good behaviour and conducting themselves in conformity to written instructions which will be furnished for their guidance, directing them to confine themselves to reporting any infraction of existing engagements, any disturbance of the public peace, and such other information as may be necessary, and particularly avoiding in the slightest degree any direct interference with the Chiefs, whose conduct they will have to observe and report upon. The expense of this necessary aid is trifling, and may either be directly borne by Government, or (should it seem fit) by the Chiefs themselves, in proportion to their means, though the first mode will be the most preferable.

11. I have been thus particular in reporting my preliminary proceedings in this province, because they appear to have created considerable dissatisfaction and distrust on the part of the Manager, particularly within the last few days, who evinces in consequence an intention to withhold all information and co-operation required of him, without which I can hardly expect to succeed in effecting the arrangements I have been directed to carry into effect. I wish to avoid making any formal complaint on this subject, trusting by firmness mixed with conciliation to be able to induce the Manager to lend his aid in carrying into effect the objects of the allied Governments. Copy of this and all subsequent reports of my proceedings in the Punchmahals will be forwarded

direct for the information of the Resident at Gwalior, through whose friendly mediation I hope to receive every proper support and countenance on the part of the Gwalior Durbar.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

Rajpeeppla and Powaghur Punchmahals,

Political Agent's Office, 25th February 1826.

Translation of a Fuel Zamin, or Security Bond for good behaviour, entered into with the Sirkar Alijah Bahadoor (Government of Dowlut Rao Sindia), through the mediation of J. P. Willoughby, Esq., Political Agent on the part of the British Government in the Province of Rewa Kanta and the Zilla of Powaghur, by Thakoor Kesree Sing Abbeh Sing, and his son Deep Sing, proprietors of the Meluwasee Village of Kunjerree, of the Hal-lole Purguna, dated 8th Maha Sood, Sumrut 1882, 15th February 1826.

We, of our free will, and in perfect possession of our faculties, have entered into a bond with the Sirkar, containing the undermentioned Articles of agreement, the same being binding in perpetuity on ourselves, our brethren and relations, on all inhabitants or persons bearing arms, residing within the Jampla or gates of the village or villages belonging to us, or outside in its (or their) suburbs, usually designated Mowada, Wara or Was, to wit:—

ARTICLE I.—We will conduct ourselves as peaceable Ryuts, observing respect to the (Umul) authority of the Sirkar (Government) which has hitherto been established over the above-mentioned village or villages, or lands under our management, and paying implicit obedience to its (the Government's) orders. Whatever settlement the Sahib (or Agent) may make of the Jumabundee, Babtees, Ghansdana, or other just claims hitherto paid by us to the Government, we will agree to the same, and in conformity thereto pay the amount year by year. We will, moreover, pay annually whatever Dhan (taxes) it may have been the ancient custom to levy on Oopurwuria land (situated in other villages) cultivated by us, or any Sulamee which may be due upon our Wanta or other lands. We will also pay (Huckdar-no Huck) the rights of individuals according to ancient custom.

ARTICLE II.—We will reside in the country belonging to the Government after the manner of Ryuts, carrying on each his own proper trade or occupation, and cultivating the soil. We will not live in enmity, or enter into any dispute, or commit any breach of the peace with any one residing in the districts belonging to Government, to any Talookdar, or Zumindar; neither will

we quarrel nor make disputes with one another. We will pay implicit obedience to the orders we may receive from those Thanas (detachments of troops) of Government which are at present, or may hereafter be established.

ARTICLE III.—We will furnish to the Agent a detailed account of all our just and ancient rights, Geeras, Wanta, Dhan, and Rukhoopa dues, as well as of any claims we may possess upon any person or persons residing in the districts belonging to Government, to any Talookdar, or Zumindar, specifying the place or places from whence they may be due. We stipulate for ourselves and brethren and descendants in perpetuity, to abide by whatever settlement the Agent may make of such of these as on investigation may appear to be founded in equity; whatever proportion (of these rights) the Government may grant to us, we will thankfully receive. If at any time a boundary dispute shall arise between us and any one, we will make the same known to the Agent, and abide by any settlement of the same which to him may seem good and equitable.

ARTICLE IV.—If we have obtained possession of any village or land or Geeras by advancing money on loan, we will abide by any settlement which the Government may prescribe for the liquidation of such portion of such debt as on inquiry may be found to be justly due. We renounce all claim to such villages, lands, or Geeras, and will not enter into any direct discussion or dispute with their inhabitants or proprietors. If any dispute shall hereafter arise in our dealings and transactions with any one, we will make Government acquainted with the same, and consent to abide by whatever settlement it may mediate. We will not enter into any direct disputes with the villagers, nor demand more from them than the award of Government; neither will we cause any extra expense to fall on any village.

ARTICLE V.—If it should be made known to Government that we have unjustly possessed ourselves of, or forcibly occupied any village or land, we stipulate to make restitution of the same on receiving directions to that effect. In future we will not possess ourselves of, or receive any written deeds, making over to us by sale, by mortgage, or by gift, any village or land or Pusaceta or Geeras, without obtaining the previous sanction of Government.

ARTICLE VI.—We will not associate with criminals (Apradee) or outlaws (Bharwuteas) from any of the districts belonging to the Government, or to any Talookdar or Zumindar; we will not afford an asylum to any robber or disturber of the public peace, nor will we permit any one belonging to our village or villages to do so. We will neither ourselves give them food or a resting place, nor allow any one to do so. If perchance any persons of this description fall into our power, we will seize and deliver them over to the custody of Government. If we are proved to hold intercourse with them, we hold ourselves responsible for their persons and crimes, and liable to

such fines as may be imposed on us. If thieves be traced into our villages or within our boundaries, we will carry on the trace to another village and establish the theft on it; otherwise we will produce the thieves and cause restitution of the property stolen to be made. We will neither associate with thieves nor ourselves commit theft. If any robbery or misdemeanour committed by any other village comes to our knowledge, we will immediately inform Government of the same, or on failure of doing so answer for the omission, and be subjected to a fine. If perchance any one belonging to our villages proceed (with the intention to commit theft or any other crime) to any village belonging to Government, to any Talookdar, or Zumindar, we will answer for the same; and should he be caught in the fact and happen to be slain, we renounce the claim called Runwutteea (blood money) on that village, and will neither ourselves make it nor permit any one to do so.

ARTICLE VII.—Should the Geeras, Runwutteea, Wuchan, or Pusaceta rights of any Geerasia who may be now residing or may hereafter come to reside in our villages, be interfered with, or prohibited by any one, we will represent his case to the Government, and prevent his making any direct disturbance on the subject. If we fail to do so, and any injury ensues, we hold ourselves responsible for the same, or to deliver up the Geerasia offending into the hands of Government. We will also make such arrangements with all Rajpoots and Koolees who are now or may hereafter be in our employ, as will prevent them making any disturbance in any place, under pretence of any claims they may have on us, so long as they may continue in and after their discharge from our service; otherwise we will be responsible for the consequences.

ARTICLE VIII.—Should we have appropriated any of our hereditary lands, or property, or coparceners' share, Geeras, Wanta, or Pusaceta rights, either in liquidation of debts, in Runwutteea, or by free gift, we promise not to resume such (assigned) without previously coming to a fair settlement of that debt, or making a fair exchange. We bind ourselves not to interfere with or trench upon such Geeras or *Aujda* (provision or assignment) lands, &c. which may, in conformity to ancient custom, belong to our brethren or other persons. In this respect we will make no change; but should any dispute arise in either of the above cases, we will represent the same to the Agent, and will conform to and abide by any orders we may receive on the subject consonant with justice. We will not, moreover, injure or oppress unjustly any respectable bankers, Bramins, or poor persons who may reside in our villages.

ARTICLE IX.—We will not in any way molest merchants or travellers frequenting the country, but will efficiently preserve and keep the peace of the highway. Should any injury be sustained (by them) within our limits, we will produce the person or persons who occasioned it, or be responsible for the

same. We promise not to levy more *Guddhaee* or other dues from merchants than those which are sanctioned by long and ancient usage. On this point we will not enter into any further discussion hereafter.

ARTICLE X.—We will afford protection to any person dependant on or in the service of Government, or to any detachments of Government troops (Surenjaum) who may halt within our limits, and will furnish guides to escort them in safety beyond our boundaries. In this matter we will not fail to act in conformity with the custom of the country (Mool'k Sereshteh).

ARTICLE XI.—We will discharge any Seebundy, whether of horse or foot, Sindians, Arabs, Mukranees, or Purdesees who may at present be in our employ, and will not hereafter entertain in our service any such descriptions of foreign mercenaries, either of horse or foot, nor will we permit any one to do so. If from this time it is proved that we act contrary to this stipulation, we hold ourselves responsible for doing so, and liable to be fined, or to undergo any other punishment the Government may inflict.

ARTICLE XII.—In conformity with the wishes of the Government of the Honorable Company, we will not permit the open or concealed import or export of opium unaccompanied by a permit or seal (Cháp). On this point we will adopt efficient arrangements within our limits, and should we discover any illicit opium we will seize it, and report the circumstances to the Government. We will, moreover, act up to any arrangements adopted in future by Government for regulating the trade in opium.

ARTICLE XIII.—We will conduct ourselves in conformity to any orders we may receive from the Government independent of the above Articles; and should Government require the presence of any one for the purpose of giving evidence in any matter or transaction under investigation, we promise to produce the person so required.

ARTICLE XIV.—Should a Mehta and Peon be stationed in our village on the part of Government, for the purpose of observing and reporting the due observance of the present agreement, we promise to make them acquainted with every occurrence, and to furnish them such accounts faithfully as it may be usual for Government to demand.

ARTICLE XV.—This engagement is binding on us and on our descendants from generation to generation in perpetuity; wherefore, on our decease, should a son survive us, we stipulate that he succeed to the management of our estate with the knowledge and sanction of Government. In case of our having no son and heir, and we wish to provide ourselves with one by adoption, we promise to represent our wishes to Government, and abide by its orders on the subject.

In this manner we have entered into these fifteen Articles of agreement, and will conduct ourselves in conformity to the same peaceably for ever and

ever, or submit to any punishment Government may award for any infraction thereof. We pledge our Wuttun lands, Geerlas, and other property as security for their due observance. We also furnish as perpetual securities for our good behaviour, personal appearance, and that we will act in strict conformity to what is written above, the Baroots Humeer Sing Devee Sing and Mehtab Sing Kaleedas, inhabitants of the village of Kunjerree of the Hallole Purguna, and, as our perpetual counter-securities, Puggee Jeet Sing Puttoobhye (proprietor) of the village of Surnej of the Wangoria Purguna, Puggee Narrainbhye Udeh Sing (proprietor) of the village of Bakrolle of the same Purguna, and Baria Uwul Sing (proprietor) of the village of Sakurda of the Baroda Purguna, they will observe their part of this contract, and oblige us to do so for ever and ever in perpetuity, for which their property is held responsible.

(Signed) THAKOOR KESREE SING ABBEH SING (what
is written is genuine), for himself, his son
Deep Sing, brethren, dependants, and all
under his authority.



Declaration made by the Baroots becoming Securities.

We declare that, of our own free will and accord, we become security for the good behaviour, and personal bail for the parties entering into the above engagement.

(Signed) BAROOT HUMEER SING DEVEE SING,



„ BAROOT MEHTAB SING KALEEDAS,
of the village of Kunjerree.



Declaration made by the Persons becoming Counter-Securities.

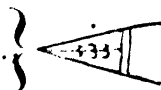
We, of our own free will, and in perfect possession of our senses, become counter-security in perpetuity, year by year and from generation to generation, to the Government, for the peaceable and proper observance of what is subscribed to above. We will abide by the same and cause it to be duly kept. If our principal does not act in conformity with what he has subscribed to, and does not afford the satisfaction demanded by Government, we, either collectively or individually, are responsible for him, and pledge our possessions and property as security for being so.

This declaration is sincere and true.

(Signed) PUGGEE JEETSING PUTTOOBHYE, of Surnej.

„ PUGGEE NARRAINBHYE UDEH SING, of Bakrolle.

„ BARIA BAWABHYE UWUL SING, of Sakurda.



(True translation)

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

No. 94 of 1826.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 13th March 1826.

SIR,—I do myself the honour to submit copy of a further report from the Political Agent in the Punchmahals; this letter encloses copy of a security bond, similar in principle to the one before transmitted but simplified, and is well calculated, as before observed, to attain the object contemplated.

2. Six of the Naikra Chiefs have subscribed to the conditions of the bond. The Agent has thought fit to station a detachment at Wandurda, consisting of infantry and irregular horse, under charge of an Officer, the reasons for which are cogent; the instructions enclosed in the letter, being copy of the requisition to the Officer commanding the detachment, are clear and conclusive.

3. The Manager had been requested to station a Thana of his own at Tallowree for the same reasons which induced the Agent to place one at Wandurda, and the Manager consented after some discussion. It is satisfactory that the Chiefs themselves, in whose Talookas the detachments are respectively stationed, made no objection to the measure.

4. Mr. Willoughby proposes that some few of the Chiefs of the Naikras and Bheels should be entertained in the service of Sindia's Government; this would be desirable, and perhaps the Resident at Gwalior might be able to induce the acquiescence of that Court. The expense is stated to be trifling, not more than 250 rupees per mensem, or say 300, and their services might be made most beneficial to the public interests.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 13th March 1826.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Political Agent,

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 3rd March 1826.

SIR,—In continuation of the report of my proceedings in this province contained in my letter of the 25th ultimo, I have now the honour to submit copy and translation of the security bond I propose endeavouring uniformly to obtain from the whole of the Naikra Chiefs residing within the limits of this Agency.

2. This document does not require any detailed explanation or remark, being in principle and tenor of the same kind as the one transmitted in my

letter above referred to. It has, however, purposely been drawn out in a more simple and concise form (consisting of eight Articles only), as being better adapted to the wild and singular class for whose future restraint and government it is proposed.

3. The Naikra Chiefs referred to in the 7th paragraph of my letter of the 25th ultimo, six in number, have, I am happy to report, already subscribed to and furnished as efficient security as could have been expected, for the due observance of its provisions, and have ratified the engagement by an oath peculiar to their caste. The particulars of these arrangements will be hereafter submitted in one general report, with any information I may procure respecting the Chiefs and their connections and the caste in general.

4. Being convinced by experience that the only mode of securing permanency to engagements of this nature, entered into by such an uncivilized and predatory caste, is to adopt preventive measures to check the possibility of their infraction, I have deemed it expedient to station, for the present, a detail of 100 rank and file, and a few Irregular Horse, at the village of Wandurda, from its central situation (with reference to the Naikra villages) and other advantages the most eligible post for preventing future excesses.

* * * * *

6. I have suggested to the Komavisdar the expediency of his stationing a Thana of his own troops at a place called Tullowree, to which, after some hesitation, he agreed. Mehtas on my part will, for the present, be stationed at both these places, to report upon the conduct of the Chiefs and the manner in which they observe their engagements. I am happy to add that no umbrage or displeasure was evinced by the Chiefs on the adoption of these measures. I had certainly expected such would have been manifested by them, but the contrary being the case, some foundation exists for placing reliance in their promises of future amendment.

7. The rights of these Chiefs will hereafter be investigated and reported upon; but I embrace this opportunity to recommend that service, on a limited scale, should be given to them and a few of their followers by the Government of Sindia. I have suggested the expediency of this measure to the Manager, who (though he seemed fully to admit its policy, and with reference to the beneficial results it would produce, economy) stated he could not carry it into effect without receiving the express sanction of his Government.

8. Under these circumstances a reference appears necessary to the Resident at Gwalior, to obtain the sanction of the Government of Dowlut Rao Sindia to the measure, provided it meets with his concurrence. I should conceive that the monthly expense ought not to exceed Rs. 250, nor be less than Rs. 200 per mensem, to be divided among the Chiefs, in reference to their rank and consequence, and to be disbursed either from the ample Nemnook granted to

the Manager for the expenses of the management of this province, or from the amount of tribute to be hereafter collected by me on account of Sindia's Government. The Chiefs and followers entertained on this account should be distributed among the different Thanas kept up by Government, to co-operate with them in maintaining the tranquillity of the country, in which their local knowledge will render them extremely useful, particularly as guides and informants.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

*Rajpeepla and Powaghur Punchmahals,
Political Agent's Office, 3rd March 1826.*

Translation of a Fuel Zamin, or Security Bond for good behaviour, entered into with the Sirkar Alijah Bahadoor (Government of Dowlut Rao Sindia), through the mediation of J. P. Willoughby, Esquire, Political Agent on the part of the British Government in the Province of Rewa Kanta and Zilla of Powaghur, by Kesur Veerum, Roopa Kesur, and Umra Kesur, Naikra Chiefs, of the Village of Shewrajpoor, of the Hallole Purguna, dated Maha Wud the 2nd, Sumvut 1882, or the 24th February 1826.

We, of our own accord, and in possession of our faculties, enter into the undermentioned Articles of agreement with the Sirkar, the same being binding in perpetuity on ourselves, our brethren, and all who reside in our village :—

ARTICLE I.—We will not commit any kind of disturbances, or any breach of the peace, in the territory or in any village or place under the authority of the Governments of Dowlut Rao Sindia, or of the Gaekwar, or of the Honorable Company, or of any Talookdar or Zumindar; neither will we quarrel or make disputes among ourselves. We will not, either singly or in gangs, rob on the highway; nor commit Jhansa ourselves, nor will we allow any one to do so. We will not associate with robbers or thieves, but seize them and all other disturbers of the public peace, and deliver them up to the custody of Government, whose orders we will in every respect implicitly obey.

ARTICLE II.—We will conduct ourselves as peaceable Ryuts, each carrying on his own cultivation or peculiar trade, labour, or service. Whatever Juma-bundee or other dues may be the ancient right of the Sirkar, or of individuals, we will pay the same year by year in conformity to any settlement or adjustment the Sahib (Agent) may make.

ARTICLE III.—We will represent in detail to the Agent whatever Gecras, Wanta, Dhan, Rukhoopoo dues or any other just rights we may possess in any place in the districts belonging to the Governments, or any Talookdar or Zumindar, or any claims we may have on individuals. Whatever proportion

of these may on inquiry be found to be just, we will agree for ourselves and brethren to receive in perpetuity such proportion in any manner which he (the Agent) may arrange; on this subject we will not make any disturbance or discussion with the villages direct. Should we have unjustly possessed ourselves of, or forcibly occupied any village, land, &c. &c. belonging to the Governments, Talookdars, Zumindars, or other persons, we promise to make restitution of the same, on receiving orders from Government to do so; and stipulate in future not to obtain any village, lands, Geeras, &c. &c. either by mortgage, sale, or gift, without the previous concurrence of Government.

ARTICLE IV.—We will not entertain in our service any Sindians, Mukrances, Arabs, or Purdesees, whether of horse or foot, and will dismiss any foreign mercenaries of this description who may at present be in our employ. If from henceforth we are proved to act contrary to this stipulation, we will be responsible for the same to Government, and submit to a fine or any other punishment it may inflict.

ARTICLE V.—If henceforward any robbery or crime is proved against us, we will answer for the same in such manner as Government may direct, and bear the expense of the Mohsuls placed upon our village.

ARTICLE VI.—We will afford protection to any merchants or single travellers frequenting the highway, and furnish them with guides for their safe escort beyond our limits, in conformity with the custom of the country; we will not molest or injure them in any way, and should injury befall them in our limits we will produce the person who occasioned it, or be responsible for the damage sustained.

ARTICLE VII.—Should any one belonging to our village proceed any where with the intention to commit theft or any other crime, he shall be made to answer for the same, and should he, being caught in the fact, happen to be slain, we will not prefer the claim called Runwutteea (blood money) nor allow any other person to do so.

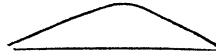
ARTICLE VIII.—We will pay obedience to any orders we may receive from the Thanas of Government, which are now or may hereafter be established. We will remain subject to their authority and orders. In this manner we have entered into these eight Articles of agreement, and will act peaceably in conformity thereto for ever and ever, or submit to any punishment Government may inflict for any infraction thereof. We pledge our Wuttun, lands, Geeras, and other property as security for the same; we also give as perpetual securities for our good behaviour, personal appearance, and that we will act in strict conformity to what is above written, the Baroots Humeer Sing Devee Sing and Mehtab Sing Kaleedas, of the village of Kunjerree, of the Hallole Purguna, and as our perpetual counter-securities Jumadar Syed bin Soleeman, of the Hallole Purguna, and Mohunt Deveeghur Hurreeghur of the village of

Kurachela, and Naick Dheroo Gober of the village of Dhurola of the Hallole Purguna; they will observe their part of this contract, and oblige us to do so, for ever and ever in perpetuity, for which their property is held responsible.

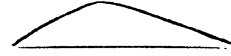
(Signed) NAICK KESUR VEERUM,



„ NAICK ROOPA KESUR,



„ NAICK UMRA KESUR,

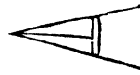


• for themselves, brethren, and all under their authority.

Declaration made by the Baroots becoming Securities.

We declare that, of our own free will and accord, we become security for the good behaviour, and personal bail for the parties entering into the above engagement.

(Signed) BAROOT HUMEER SING DEVEE SING.



„ BAROOT MEHTAB SING KALEEDAS, of Kunjerree.



Declaration made by the persons becoming Counter-Securities.

We, of our own free will, and in perfect possession of our senses, become counter-security in perpetuity, year by year, and from generation to generation, to the Government, for the peaceable and proper observance of what is subscribed to above. We will abide by the same and cause it to be duly kept. If our principal does not act in conformity with what he has subscribed to, and does not afford the satisfaction demanded by Government, we either collectively or individually are responsible for him, and pledge our possessions and property as security for being so. This declaration is sincere and true.

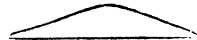
(Signed) SYED BIN SOLEEMAN, Jumadar of Hullole.



„ MOHUNT DEVEEGHUR HURREEGHUR, of Kurachela.



„ NAICK DHEROO GOBER, of Dhurola.



(True copy)

(Signed) J. W. MUSPRATT, 2nd Assistant Resident.

(True translations)

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 6th April 1826.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letters dated the 13th ultimo, Nos. 93* and 94,† forwarding copies of despatches from the Political Agent in Sindia's districts, detailing his proceedings since assuming charge of his new appointment, and to acquaint you that Mr. Willoughby's views appear to be just and his proceedings judicious. •

The Governor in Council concurs with you in the proposed measures regarding the entertainment of the Mehtas and Peons for the purpose of giving intelligence.

The Governor in Council directs me to refer you to the instructions contained in my letter of the 13th‡ of last month, and to request that you will observe, in relation to the 3rd Article of the Fuel Zamin, the same caution and attention to former practice that was then recommended. The 3rd Article seems to embrace the terms of the 5th Article of Enclosure No. 3 to your despatch of the 7th October.

With regard to the employment of a few of the Chiefs of the Naikras, as alluded to in the 4th para. of your letter No. 94, I have to acquaint you that a reference has been made to the Resident at Gwalior on the subject.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 6th April 1826.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the RESIDENT AT GWALIOR.

Dated 6th April 1826.

SIR,—I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a despatch, No. 94, from the Resident at Baroda, dated the 13th ultimo, with transcript of one from the Political Agent in Sindia's Punchmahals, detailing his proceedings since assuming charge of his new office.

The Governor in Council will be happy to learn your sentiments on the employment of the Naikra Chiefs in the manner suggested by Mr. Willoughby, and the probability of Sindia's bearing a share of the expense.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 6th April 1826.

* Vide page 811 of this Selection.

† Vide page 822 of this Selection.

‡ Vide page 811 of this Selection.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 10th June 1826.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward copy of a letter from the Political Agent in the Punchmahals and Rajpeepla to my address, briefly detailing his proceedings during the late circuit he had made of the whole of the Gaekwar districts which fell within the influence of the Agency. The petty States of Oodepoor, Baria, and Rajpeepla were also visited, and separate reports will be forwarded hereafter upon those places.

2. I am happy to observe that no difficulty has been experienced by Mr. Willoughby in taking the securities necessary from the Naikra and Melwasee villages situated within the Gaekwar limits, and that the troops of His Highness attached to the Political Agent have conducted themselves in an exemplary manner. The deficiency in the number is not to be avoided; the Gaekwar Government is not able to maintain the large number of horses required for the different Agencies.

3. The detachment under command of Captain Foquett appears to have behaved with great correctness, and the Political Agent attributes the success which attended his proceedings in some measure to the presence and exemplary discipline of the detachment.

4. It is very satisfactory to know, that with the exception of Sindia's possessions, every other part within the range of the Political Agent's influence is in perfect tranquillity.

5. I have approved of the different detachments stationed by Mr. Willoughby, and of the relief of the Nandod Detachment.

6. It is not requisite for me to advert on this occasion to the zeal and activity of Mr. Willoughby during this period, when that dreadful scourge, the cholera, was raging in camp and around him; he persevered till the duties he was engaged in were completed, and only returned on the setting in of the monsoon.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. WILLIAMS, Resident.

Baroda Residency, 10th June 1826.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Political Agent in the Punchmahals, &c.

To J. WILLIAMS, Esq., Resident at Baroda.

Dated 4th June 1826.

SIR,—I have the honour to report, for your information, that I have visited the petty States of Rajpeepla, Chota Oodepoor, and Baria. The condition of these petty States, and my proceedings with their respective Governments, will be separately reported upon in detail after my return to Baroda.

2. I have also completed a circuit of the whole of the Gaekwar districts included in this Agency, during which security and counter-securities of a satisfactory nature have been obtained from the whole of the Melwasee, Bheel, and Naikra villages situated within them as yet placed under my superintendence. To enable me to effect this object, I have been under the necessity of making a tour of upwards of 500 miles, which at this season of the year has been rather harassing. Latterly, moreover, the *Cholera morbus*, which has prevailed to a most lamentable extent in many parts of my charge, made its appearance in my camp, and I regret to add, most of the cases which fell under my immediate observation proved fatal in a few hours after the attack.

3. I shall be able to report more satisfactorily upon the present condition of the villages above referred to on my return to Baroda, since the tribute due from them to Government and their own rights are to be investigated and settled in direct communication with the Baroda Durbar. I shall only, therefore, now add that I am provided with all the information which is necessary to enter upon an investigation of the claims of all parties.

4. The following is an abstract of the number of villages in each district from which security has been obtained, and which henceforward are entitled to the protection of the British Government to the extent and limits prescribed by the negotiations with the Gaekwar Government which preceded my appointment:—

District of Saolee.....	20 villages.
Ditto Wangaria	4 ditto.
Ditto Dubhoy	1 ditto.
Ditto Bhadurpoor ..	1 ditto.
Ditto Sunkaira	21 ditto.
Ditto Tullukwara ..	15 ditto.
Ditto Sinnore	2 ditto.
Ditto Wusravce	34 ditto.
Total..	98 villages.

5. It affords me much satisfaction in being able to report, that I have received the most ready and cordial co-operation from the whole of the Gaekwar officers in charge of the above districts, to which in fact, in a material degree, is to be attributed the success which has attended my proceedings.

6. The celerity with which security has been obtained, imposing the most salutary restraints upon so many villages and persons hitherto subsisting by plunder and subjected to no control whatever, is also in a very great degree to be attributed to the presence of the detachment of the 20th Regiment N. I., under the command of Captain Foquett, originally placed at my disposal. I gladly embrace this opportunity (and I trust I may do so without being considered presumptuous) of expressing my obligation to Captain Foquett for the readiness with which he has at all times met my views and wishes in

carrying into effect the orders of Government ; and of bringing to your notice the uniform and exemplary good conduct of the detachment under his command, so creditable to himself and the officers subordinate to him. Fortunately no necessity arose for resorting to coercive measures, but the moral influence arising from the presence of this detachment greatly contributed to the success of my proceedings, and the total absence of all complaint from the inhabitants of the extensive tract of country it had to traverse, is the most satisfactory proof I could mention of its discipline and good conduct.

7. The detachment of the Gaekwar Irregular Horse placed at my disposal, nominally 200 but in reality no more than 150, conducted itself in a very creditable manner, and was of essential service. It has now been distributed in small Thanas, or posts, at places best calculated to protect the Company's and Gaekwar districts, and to give permanency to the security engagements obtained.

8. With the exception of the Punchmahals (where, from causes I could not control, similar arrangements have not yet been completely effected) I am happy to report general tranquillity has already been established throughout my charge, and in consequence I feel myself justified (though certainly not altogether without risk) in consideration of the want of troops which generally prevails, to dispense with the services of 100 rank and file from those at present under my orders.

* * * * *

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Political Agent.

*Rajpeepla and Powaghur Punchmahals,
Political Agent's Office, 4th June 1826.*

From D. GREENHILL, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government,
To the RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Dated 1st July 1826.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 10th ultimo, forwarding copy of one from the Political Agent in the Punchmahals, detailing his proceedings during his late circuit of the Gaekwar's districts within his Agency, and to acquaint you that Mr. Willoughby's arrangements appear to have been perfectly judicious.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) D. GREENHILL, Acting Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 1st July 1826.

EXTRACTS FROM DESPATCHES

ADDRESSED BY

THE HONORABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS

TO

THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY,.

REVIEWING THE PROCEEDINGS OF MR. J. P. WILLOUGHBY,
DETAILED AT PAGES 389 TO 653 AND 699 TO 831 OF THIS
SELECTION.

Extracts, Paras. 31 to 47, from a Despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors to the address of the Bombay Government, dated the 16th February 1825.

31. The reports here brought to our notice are highly creditable to the zeal and talents of Mr. Willoughby.

32. The degree of interposition which you thought it necessary to exercise in the affairs of Rajpcepla, we consider to have been advisable.

33. The arbitration of the claims of Narsing and Purtaub Sing to the Gadee, the final decision in favour of Narsing, and the investiture with the sovereignty of his son Verisal (Narsing being incapacitated by blindness), and the selection of a Karbarce and Potdar, appear unexceptionable.

34. The collection of the Gackwar tribute by British agency is included in the general arrangements respecting Katteewar and Mahee Kanta, which have been already noticed by us.

35. The resources of the State, with reference to its present circumstances, we apprehend are over-estimated.* The assessment (Rs. 2,29,278) is much in excess of the average of the two periods mentioned in your 63rd paragraph.† The expenses are stated at an amount (Rs. 90,060) which, as we judge from the circumstances reported

† Two periods of five years, one amounting annually to Rs. 1,58,438 The other to „ 2,44,887 Of which the average would be „ 2,01,622

* With reference to the remarks contained in this and the following paragraph, Mr. Willoughby, on the 24th October 1825, submitted the following explanation:—

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant Resident, Baroda,

To W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 24th October 1825.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated the 26th of

From W. NEWNHAM, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

To J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Esq., Assistant in Charge of the Residency at Baroda.

Dated 26th July 1825.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit to you, for your information and any observations you may have to offer, the accompanying copy of paragraphs 31 to 47 of a despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors, dated 16th February last, regarding the Rajpcepla affairs.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. NEWNHAM, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 26th July 1825.

July last, transmitting for my information, and for any observations I may have to offer, extract from a despatch from the Honorable the Court Directors, dated the 16th February 1825, upon the affairs of Rajpcepla.

2. The observations I have to offer are few in number, since the arrangement adverted to in the

despatch from the Honorable Court are for the most part honored with its commendation ;

concerning them, they are not expected ever to fall short of, and which it may therefore be reasonably feared they will sometimes exceed.

36. In the 62nd para. of the letter to which we are replying, the Rajpeepla tribute is stated at Rs. 75,000, for which you had the authority of Mr. Williams' despatch of the 16th February 1822 (para. 2), but that gentleman was then offering an estimate of the probable resources and disbursements of the Rajpeepla

and my subsequent reports upon the affairs of Rajpeepla will, there is reason to hope, have tended to remove its apprehensions that the resources of this petty State have been over-estimated.

3. These apprehensions may, at least in part, be attributed to an error observable in the 35th para. of the Honorable Court's letter, wherein the average of the two periods selected for assessing the revenue of the State for Sunvut 1878 (1821-22) is stated to have been for the first Rs. 1,58,438, and for the second Rs. 2,44,887; consequently giving as the average of both Rs. 2,01,622, whereas the actual assessment made amounted to Rs. 2,29,278.

4. It is only necessary, at this late period, to refer the Honorable Board to my report to the Resident, dated the 19th of January 1822,* explaining the principles on which the above assessment was fixed; and with reference to the 6th para. of that report to observe, that the two items from which the average of the Honorable Court is obtained, are the averages for the two periods selected of the revenue of one district only, whereas the actual assessment quoted comprised the revenues of every description due to the Government for the year referred to.

5. The underwritten statement, taken from the same report, exhibiting the decennial average amount of revenue obtained from each of the six principal districts of the country, contrasted with the actual assessment made on them for Sunvut 1878, will satisfy the Honorable Court that a system exactly the reverse of the one supposed was pursued in determining the latter:—

No.	Names of Districts.	Decennial Average.			Assessment of 1878 (1821-22).		
		Rs.	qr.	reas.	Rs.	qr.	reas.
1	Nandod	41,371	3	91	45,096	2	0
2	Wurceetee	22,356	0	48½	16,758	0	0
3	Bhalode	24,860	0	17	17,010	3	50
4	Gowalee	12,527	3	50	11,000	0	0
5	Jugreea	16,540	1	60	12,005	0	0
6	Jubboogaum	9,101	1	20	7,001	0	0
Total . . . Rs.		1,26,757	2	86½	1,08,871	1	50

This statement shows, that only in one instance did the assessment exceed the decennial average, and that the aggregate of the former upon the six districts fell short of the latter to the extent of Rs. 17,886-1-36½. A continuation of the comparison would exhibit a still more favourable result, as for example, the decennial average from the Ruttonpoor district was ascertained to have been at least Rs. 30,000, whereas its assessment for 1878 was only Rs. 12,023. I am thus particular in endeavouring to show that the evil of over-estimates, connected with prospective arrangements, has not escaped my notice; because I am aware that the stability of many of the arrangements subsequently adopted in Rajpeepla, through my agency, would be destroyed could it be shown that I had fallen into so vital an error. I

Principality, and assumed the abovementioned sum as the amount payable in future to the Gaekwar Government. In point of fact, however, His Highness' claims amounted in the aggregate to Rs. 88,000 per annum, as appears from Mr. Willoughby's report of the 30th December 1821, who says, "it is impossible to claim any decrease as a matter of right, as the above amount was fixed by the agreement Ramsing entered into in A. D. 1805 with the Gaekwar Govern-

may, in conclusion of this part of my letter, refer the Honorable Board to my annual reports of the estimated, contrasted with the actual resources of Rajpéepla, as their inspection will show that, with the exception of one year of extraordinary calamity, my estimates have invariably fallen short (though to a trifling extent) of the resources actually realized.

6. The view taken by the Honorable Court of the value of the concession on the part of His Highness the Gaekwar, in reducing the Rajpéepla tribute to Rs. 65,000 per annum, coupled as it was with the retention of other rights of at least a doubtful title, admits of no question. It is truly valued at Rs. 8,893 per annum, and although it would have been highly desirable could His Highness have been prevailed upon to have made a larger concession to the tributary, yet I must add, he appears in my humble judgment to be fully entitled to receive credit for voluntarily acceding to a remission to the above amount; conceiving as I do that (however different in their origin the imposition of Jumabundee and Ghaudsana may have been) in the case of Rajpéepla, he was as much entitled to the one as to the other, both being alike secured by treaty, and confirmed by long prescriptive enjoyment.

7. I shall take the liberty on this occasion to offer a few remarks in opposition to the theory (if I may so term it) referred to in the Honorable Court's despatch, "that in the case of countries, especially hilly districts, from which a large sum as tribute, and a smaller one as Ghaudsana, have been distinctly exacted and always by the presence or impending fear of a military force, the Jumabundee is to be considered as the actual tribute and the Ghaudsana as the local expense of the collecting force." I shall first dissent from this opinion as far as Rajpéepla is concerned, as material to the present question; and second, as far as respects the right generally as an interesting point of history. I do so, however, with great deference, and some hesitation, as the majority of my superiors hold a contrary opinion, and I have not access to the records of Government and the information on which their opinion is grounded.

8. The following summary, tracing the history of the Ghaudsana claimed from Rajpéepla, from its first imposition in A. D. 1786 to A. D. 1805, will, I think, fully bear me out in my opinion that no such connection exists, or ever did exist, between it and the Jumabundee paid by the same State. It was originally imposed by Futeh Sing Gaekwar the First, in Sumvut 1843 (A. D. 1786), and amounted in the first instance to Rs. 15,000, payable every alternate year. In that year Ajebsing succeeded to the sovereignty of the country, and the Gaekwar Government, taking advantage of a new succession, subjected him to this tax as the price of recognizing his title to succeed. In Sumvut 1848 (A. D. 1791), it was augmented by Govind Rao Gaekwar to Rs. 20,000, payable as formerly every other year, and the pretence under which this increase was made was assistance which the Raja of Rajpéepla was accused of having afforded to Futeh Sing the First in opposition to Govind Rao. In 1861 (A. D. 1805) the amount previously paid was doubled, being made payable every year, on which occasion the Raja entered into a written engagement in the manner recorded in my letter to the Resident dated the 31st December 1821, binding himself and heirs to pay the amount in perpetuity, in addition to the tribute strictly so called. For this increase also a specific cause was assignable, as it was demanded by the Gaekwar Government as a remuneration for

ment. Notwithstanding it was obtained owing to the inability of Ramasing to refuse compliance with its terms, I conclude it must be considered as binding upon the present Raja." This sum of Rs. 88,000 was made up as follows:—

Jumabundee..... 68,000

Ghansdana 20,000

“;

Rs. 88,000

37. We observe, that at the period when you undertook the adjustment of

expense it incurred in equipping a military force and sending it, with the knowledge of the British Government, to Rajpeepla, to subdue Baroot Sing, a disaffected Jumadar, who had rebelled against the Raja and had invaded his country. The authenticity of this history may be relied upon, and if it is considered insufficient to disprove that the theory I am opposing cannot be applied to the case of Rajpeepla, I may add that in all my inquiries respecting the Gackwar's rights upon Rajpeepla, and with the most anxious desire to reduce them to the lowest amount possible consistent with justice, the local authorities invariably treated the Ghansdana claim as equally tenable and just as the one for Jumabundee.

9. The following are my principal reasons for contending that the theory in question cannot be applied in a general point of view:—1st, If Juma be the amount of tribute and Ghansdana the tax imposed to cover the expense of collecting that tribute, one would naturally expect to find, wherever the one exists that the other exists also, and certainly with still greater reason that both wherever found together should belong to the same power. On the contrary, however, a system exactly the reverse is met with; the Ghansdana rights of His Highness the Gaekwar being for the most part claimed from petty States, from which he possesses no claim for Juma. It is hardly necessary to quote the case of Katteewar from its notoriety. In that province Ghansdana was found established, not on the Gaekwar's own tributaries, but on those belonging to the ex-Peshwa, and be it observed, at a time when the Peshwa collected his tribute by his own officers. In this case the right was justly disallowed by the British Government, its establishment being contrary to the partition treaty entered into between the Gaekwar and Peshwa about A. D. 1752. This, however, cannot be quoted in support of the rejection of the claim established over places (as in the case of Rajpeepla) not embraced by the prohibitory article of this treaty. Again, in what I may term Guzerat Proper, Ghansdana is not, generally speaking, found established upon the petty States tributary to the Gaekwar, but either upon those originally subject to the ex-Peshwa (in all which cases I conceive the right might have been rejected as inadmissible on the same grounds as in the instance of Katteewar) or to the late Mulhar Rao Gaekwar, viz. in the Punchmahals under Kaira; in the Purantej district under Ahmedabad; Pahlunpoor, Morassa, Loonawara, Balasinore, &c. originally tributary to the former, and the tributaries of the Kurree, Delgaum, and Bycel districts to the latter authority. In these instances, as well as in that of Katteewar, the tribute was due to one power and the Ghansdana to another, a fact of itself, I should conceive, sufficient to disprove the existence of the intimate connection between them which I am now questioning; for I may add, in support of the opposite side of the question, it must be shown that the two rights were undivided and payable to the same State.

10. The second fact which I shall adduce, in opposition to this theory, is that Ghansdana has been imposed by the Gaekwar Government upon some petty States where no Juma is paid either to it or any other State. The cases I principally allude to are the petty States of Chota Oodepoor, Mandwa, and Meahgaum, the Chiefs of which pay Ghansdana to this

the Gaekwar's claims upon the tributary State of Rajppeepla, they had been raised to the exorbitant amount of a lakh of rupees, viz:—

Jumabundee.....	76,001
(Including 8,000 under the denomination of Durbarkureh.)	
Ghandsdana	20,000
Babties or Daita.....	4,000
	<hr/>
	Rs. 1,00,001

Government, but are exempt from paying tribute to any one. Other instances of minor importance might be added, but those quoted are quite sufficient for my purpose.

11. My third and last reason is still more conclusive. In the "Meeratee Ahmedee," a Persian manuscript of great authority in Guzerat, Ghandsdana is stated to have been imposed by the Murathas, in addition to the Juma or tribute, after the example set them by their predecessors the Moguls, who had imposed a tax (also in addition to the tribute) designated Kachri.

12. The author of the above work states, that the Kachri کچری tax was first imposed by Maharaja Ajeet Sing of Joudpoor (Soubadar of Ahmedabad) on making a circuit to collect his tribute, about 1127 of the Hijree, or A. D. 1702. From the name of this tax it has been supposed (but I believe erroneously) that in the first instance it consisted in rations to his men; but the author I am quoting does not so describe it. At all events it soon became converted to a money payment, for the historian states it to have been one at first small in amount, and designates it a bad innovation بدعت upon previous custom. He subsequently observes that the amount was increased to such an extent by succeeding Soubadars, that even in his time "the Jumabundee (tribute) had doubled, the tributaries and Rynts were involved in ruin, and the name of Jageerdars alone remained to the former."

13. The above account of the Kachri tax proves that it was distinct from the tribute; and I now proceed to quote from the same author a passage proving that the Muratha levy, Ghandsdana, corresponds with it, and consequently to do so must be distinct also. In recording the history of Momin Khan (Soubadar of Guzerat from about 1150 to 1156 of the Hijree, or about A. D. 1735 to 1741, and who divided Guzerat with Damajee Rao Gaekwar) the author makes the following remarks, which not only identifies Ghandsdana with the Kachri tax of the Moguls, but proves its imposition to have been coeval with the establishment of the Gaekwar dynasty in Guzerat:—"In short the resources of the Soubah declined annually, in consequence of the injury and damage occasioned by the incursions of the Murathas, and from their levying from the towns and villages a tax called Kah Danah کاوردانه (literally straw and grain), corresponding with that collected by the Moguls designated Kachri." On these grounds, I venture with deference to state it to be my opinion, that the Ghandsdana levied by the Murathas was not imposed to defray the expense of collecting the tribute, but that it was a distinct exaction, which though undoubtedly imposed in the first instance by force, to free those who submitted to it from indiscriminate plunder, became, on the consolidation of the Gaekwar power, as regular a right as the tribute strictly so termed.

14. These are all the remarks which it occurs to me to offer upon the Honorable Court's despatch; but in conclusion I may be permitted to express the gratification I have derived from the commendation bestowed on my proceedings in Rajppeepla.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) J. P. WILLOUGHBY, Assistant Resident.

Baroda Residency, 24th October 1825.

Mr. Willoughby, however, proved most satisfactorily that the exactions of Rs. 8,000 on account of Durbarkurch, and of Rs. 4,000 on account of Babtees or Daita, were wholly untenable, having been imposed at a recent period, during which the Gaekwar administered the affairs of the country, and without any agreement with the Raja or any rule of prescription. From Mr. Williams' letter of the 14th September 1822, recorded on your Consultations of the 20th November 1822, we learn that the Gaekwar Government relinquished these exactions, and that His Highness voluntarily agreed to reduce the tribute under every denomination to Rs. 65,000 per annum. The value of this concession is, however, diminished by his having insisted upon the cession of the village of Bhurn to which he had no right, and by his reserving various items of receipt which had formerly been accounted as part of the tribute of Rs. 88,000. The items alluded to amounted in the aggregate to . . . Rs. 9,107 The revenue derivable from the village of Bhurn is estimated at . . . „ 5,000 Adding to these sums the reduced tribute of . . . „ 65,000

It appears that, under the late arrangement, the contributions of the Rajpeepla State to the Gaekwar, in one shape or another, amount to Rs. 79,107 which is only Rs. 8,893 less than was exacted under the agreement with Ramsing in the year 1805, and that agreement included Rs. 20,000 for Ghansdana, which is at least a questionable claim.

38. The Gaekwar's claims to Ghansdana from the British tributaries in Kattēwar were decided to be untenable on the ground that they were contrary to the partition treaty between the Gaekwar and the Peshwa. This ground alone was sufficient for decision on that occasion. But during the progress of the discussion, the view taken of the Ghansdana claims generally by Mr. Prendergast, was adopted as the opinion of the majority of the Council in the Government of your late President; and although a different opinion was expressed by your present President, still the balance appears to us to incline in favour of Mr. Prendergast's view of the question, namely, that in the case of countries, especially hilly districts, from which a large sum as tribute and a smaller sum as Ghansdana have been distinctly exacted and always by the presence or impending fear of a military force (as in the case of Rajpeepla before it was taken entirely under the management of the Gaekwar in 1815), the Jumabundee is to be considered as the actual tribute and the Ghansdana as the local expense of the collecting force. If the Ghansdana be not a claim equally tenable with the tribute, the nominal reduction in the present instance will appear to be an actual increase, the highest amount at any time claimed for tribute having been Rs. 76,001, and the aggregate existing contribution of the Rajpeepla State to the Gaekwar being, as shown above, Rs. 79,107.

39. This sum is more than one-third of the average gross revenue, about one-half of the lowest, and much more than one-fourth of the highest recorded receipts. In his letter to your Secretary, of the 10th March 1822, Mr. Williams suggested the propriety of fixing the tribute in perpetuity at not more than Rs. 60,000, which he considered to be fully as much as the Gaekwar Government was entitled to receive. In answer to this suggestion it was observed, that although it might perhaps be possible to persuade the Gaekwar that Rs. 60,000 was all that could then be paid, he would nevertheless expect that his whole tribute should be made good when the condition of Rajpcepla should improve.

40. Mr. Williams, writing on the 8th March (two days anterior to the date of the letter above referred to), observes, with reference to some paragraphs of a letter wherein Mr. Willoughby had pointed out reasons for questioning the Gaekwar's right to demand so large a tribute, and had entered into details of its ancient amount—"I do not see the use of pursuing that subject, as it only tends to prove that the tribute was acquired, as all tributes are, by the sword, and that the powerful State availed itself to the utmost of the imbecility of the inferior to increase its demands. This, although a good moral argument, will not do in a political question, and we might as well attempt to set aside the Gaekwar's claims to tribute from Kattcewar, and set the example ourselves of relieving from the burthen those tributaries who have exchanged the yoke of the Peshwa for that of the British Government, with this difference to the parties, that they have less power of maintaining their independence, and less chance of evading payment of their tribute." You express your concurrence in these opinions, and observe in another place—"Unless some specific calamity can be shown, or some infringement of engagement on the Gaekwar's part, we are bound to obtain the full payment of his regular tribute."

41. We are not, however, convinced of the correctness of this doctrine, that however disproportionate the imposed tribute may be to the means of the tributary, we are bound to exact it to the utmost. The moral argument which Mr. Williams rejects, should, we think, so far prevail, that the demand of the superior State should be fixed at an amount which the inferior State can be reasonably expected to pay, consistently with the continuance of its existence as a substantive State. There is a wide difference between this degree of concession and resigning the claim to tribute altogether. We ought, if there be any instances in which it has not been done, to set the example ourselves of so far relieving our own tributaries.

42. You observe indeed (4th November 1822) that the British Government does not come under any direct pecuniary responsibility, being only bound to procure payment from the tributary, subject of course to the accidents to which such payments are liable; and Mr. Willoughby mentions that the original

agreement with the Gaekwar contains the usual stipulation for remissions in case of "heavenly or earthly calamity." But if we rightly understand your views of this stipulation, it is only to be considered available in cases of specific calamity, whereas we can easily conceive that though there may be neither hostile incursions, nor inundations, nor violent drought, nor any other events which may be distinguished as specific calamities, the resources of the State may be in the less favourable season inadequate to the full payment of its highly assessed tribute (for it greatly exceeds the usual rate, the tribute of Katteewar having for instance been assessed, though with very unequal pressure on individuals, at less than one-fifth of the gross revenue in the mass); and in these cases, if there has been no improvidence or mismanagement on the part of the Government, we think a liberal construction of the stipulation would authorise an adequate remission.

43. The provision for the widow of the late Raja Ramsing, and her son Purtaub Sing,* and the allowances for the personal expenses of the present Raja Verisal† and his father Narsing,‡ certainly do not err on the score of excess. The remaining expenses of the State§ appear to be estimated on as low a scale as possible, and include no provision for any emergency.

44. Supposing the revenue to be realized at the amount fixed by Mr. Willoughby, the expenses never to exceed the amount allowed in the Nemnook, and the Gaekwar tribute to be paid in full, there would remain an annual surplus of Rs. 50 or 60,000 for the liquidation of the debts of the Government. These, in Mr. Willoughby's letter of the 27th February 1822, are said to exceed the sum of thirty lakhs of rupees, of which above eighteen lakhs were claimed by the Gaekwar; but Mr. Williams, in the report of his conferences with the Gaekwar and his Minister, dated 14th September 1822, states that the Court of Baroda had admitted the propriety of abating about ten lakhs, thus reducing its demand to about eight and a half lakhs. The liquidation of this and the other debts with interest is impossible; without interest, it could not be accomplished, under the most favourable circumstances, in a reasonable period of time. It is therefore absolutely necessary that after the debts have been carefully scrutinized and reduced to their just limits, some compromise should be made with the creditors; but we agree with you in thinking that the course proposed by Mr. Williams, in his letter of the 27th February 1822, is too summary, and that the creditors are entitled to be satisfied that the sum offered is the most which the State can possibly pay. We observe that Rs. 1,25,000 of debt are under the Company's guarantee.

45. The revenue for the year 1821-22 was estimated at Rs. 2,29,278; but we find by your Consultations, of dates subsequent to that of the paragraphs

* Rs. 8,400 per annum.

† Rs. 15,000 per annum.

‡ Rs. 12,000 per annum.

§ Rs. 63,000 per annum.

under reply, that owing to a most destructive inundation, no more than Rs. 1,95,000 was realized, and that the resources of 1822-23 are estimated at Rs. 1,00,000 only. The expenses of the Government having been fixed on the most economical and moderate scale possible, are stated by Mr. Willoughby not to admit of any reduction; and these, with the provision for Purtaub Sing and his mother, absorb the whole estimated revenue. Under the impossibility of providing for any other of the heavy charges on the State tribute, arrears of tribute, debt under the Company's guarantee, balance to the Potdar, balance to the Komavisdar, &c., questions arise as to remission, postponement, and prospects of ultimate liquidation, which we fear do not admit of very satisfactory solution. Though we see little reason to doubt that good government, continuance of tranquillity, and ordinarily favourable seasons would, in time, render the resources of Rajpeepla much greater than they have ever been of late years, yet this prospect is remote, and subject to many contingencies. In the mean time the limited means of the State are, and are likely to be, for some years at least, inadequate to all the purposes to which they have been assigned. The receipts and disbursements have been estimated without sufficient provision for contingencies, and even, we think, setting contingencies aside, without sufficient advertence to the actual resources of the country. It appears to us, that either the actual charges must be adapted to the actual receipts without allowing more debt to accumulate in extraordinarily unfavourable, than can be liquidated in ordinarily favourable years, or the State can scarcely continue to exist as a substantive Government.

46. The commutation of the Rajpeepla Tora Geeras rights on British districts for a money payment from your treasury, is a satisfactory arrangement.

47. The settlements with the Bheels are important, and were conducted by Mr. Willoughby with ability, and in a laudably conciliatory manner.

Extract, Paras. 18 to 26, from a Despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors, No. 6, dated the 20th July 1830.

(98 to 128) & (13 to 16) 18. We have here the agreeable duty to perform of
 of 12th February 1827. Affairs of Rajpeepla. bestowing unqualified praise.

19. The two points which most frequently require the intervention of the British Government in the affairs of the petty States in this part of India, are the realization of the Gaekwar's dues and the preservation of the peace of the country. In the case of Rajpeepla, as in those of most of the other tributaries, it has been found indispensable for the first mentioned purpose, that we should assume entire control over the finances of the State; and for the latter, that we should undertake the task of reclaiming the wild inhabitants of the hilly regions.

liquidation of the guaranteed loan, four, amounting to Rs. 21,001, Rs. 34,001, Rs. 55,001, and Rs. 65,001 have been punctually paid; and adverting to the rapidly increasing scale on which they were framed, their easy and regular realization affords a striking proof of the growing prosperity of the country. Three instalments of Rs. 10,000 each have also been paid in discharge of the remainder of the Gaekwar debt, which is thus reduced to Rs. 3,13,975, and the balance due to the Government Potdar and included in the yearly accounts as a loan annually liquidated and annually renewed, has been reduced from Rs. 33,794 to Rs. 3,046. The estimate for the next year is still more favourable, the receipts being expected to amount to Rs. 2,70,158, which will afford the means of paying the fifth Kist to the holders of the guaranteed loan (amounting to Rs. 85,001) and another instalment of Rs. 10,000 to the Gaekwar, besides extinguishing the small balance still due to the Government Potdar. Mr. Willoughby's performances have so regularly surpassed his promises, that we place much confidence in this estimate. If it be verified by

Sumvut 1884, the usual instalment of Rs. 10,000	
„ 1885, an instalment of „	30,000
„ 1886, Do. do. „	50,000
„ 1887, Do. do. „	65,000
„ 1888, Do. do. „	70,000
„ 1889, Do. do. „	78,000
„ 1890, Do. do. „	10,975
Total.. Rs.	3,13,975

the event, the whole of the guaranteed debt, except a small balance of interest, will be extinct, and the funds now appropriated to the payment of the annual Kists will be set free. In anticipation of this occurrence, Mr. Willoughby has concluded an agreement with the Gaekwar, providing for a large increase of the annual instalments payable to him after Sumvut 1884. Keeping in view the

possibility of unexpected contingencies, Mr. Willoughby has fixed the instalments of the first two or three years at a rate much below what it is probable that the Rajppeepla Government will be able to pay. Even on this calculation, however, the whole balance will be paid off in Sumvut 1890 (A. D. 1833-34).

TRANSFER
TO THE SUPERINTENDENCE OF THE POLITICAL AGENT
IN THE REWA KANTA,
FOR THE PERIOD OF TEN YEARS
(FROM THE 30TH JULY 1853),
OF THE DISTRICTS COMPOSING THE
GODRA PUNCHMAHALS
IN GUZERAT,
BELONGING TO HIS HIGHNESS SINDIA;
AND
REPORTS ON THOSE DISTRICTS
FROM THAT PERIOD TO THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1855,
BY
MAJOR R. WALLACE,
POLITICAL AGENT IN THE REWA KANTA.

PUNCHMAHAL DISTRICTS.

From C. ALLEN, Esq., Offg. Secretary to the Government of India,
To A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Dated Fort William, 3rd June 1853.

SIR,—* * * * * I am directed to acquaint you, for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council, that the Governor General in Council has sanctioned the proposal of the Gwalior Durbar, that the districts of Sindia in Guzerat called the Punchmahals, be placed for ten years under the management of the Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta, and to request that the necessary orders may be issued to Major Fulljames to assume charge of the districts. An allowance of Rs. 400 per mensem was named by the Durbar as remuneration for the extra charge, and this amount may be sanctioned, or such other as the Bombay Government may think suitable. * * * * *

I have, &c.

(Signed) C. ALLEN, Offg. Secretary.

Fort William, the 3rd June 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay,
To MAJOR G. FULLJAMES, Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta.

Dated the 1st July 1853.

SIR,—* * * * * I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a letter and of its enclosure from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 3rd ultimo, and to request that you will have the goodness to state, for the information of this Government, whether you are prepared to take charge of the districts composing the "Godra Punchmahals," and whether you will be able to manage them without further assistance.

2. In case you are prepared to receive charge of these districts, the Agent for the Governor General for Sindia's dominions will be requested to take the necessary steps for making them over to your charge, as soon as you may deem fit.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) A. MALET, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 1st July 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From Major G. FULLJAMES, Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta,
To A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 6th July 1853.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, with its enclosures from the Officiating Secretary to the Government of India, and to report that I am prepared to receive charge of the districts composing the Godra Punchmahals, and trust I shall be able to perform the duties of this extra charge without further assistance than that agreed to by the Gwalior Durbar.

2. With reference to the 2nd paragraph of your letter, and the 3rd of Mr. Bushby's letter to the Government of India No. 56, of the 16th May 1853, I would respectfully report, that the Sooba of Godra has already received orders to wait upon me and obey all my orders; it only therefore appears necessary that I should receive the sanction of Government for assuming charge.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) G. FULLJAMES, Political Agent.

Rewa Kanta Agency, Baroda, 6th July 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To Major G. FULLJAMES, Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta.

Dated 16th July 1853.

SIR,—I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 6th instant, and to instruct you to receive charge of the Godra districts from the Sooba, if properly authorised to make them over to you.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) A. MALET, Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 16th July 1853.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From Major G. FULLJAMES, Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta,
To A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated 30th July 1853.

SIR,—With reference to your letter dated the 16th instant, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council,

that I have assumed charge of the superintendence of the Powaghur Punchmahal districts of His Highness Sindia from the Sooba.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) G. FULLJAMES, Political Agent.

Rewa Kanta Agency, Baroda, 30th July 1853.

Extracts from a Report from Major R. Wallace, Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta and Superintendent of the Powaghur Punchmahals, dated 19th May 1855, No. 35.

The charge of the Punchmahals was made over to my predecessor in this Agency (Major Fulljames) on the 1st August 1853, but the illness and death of that officer shortly after, prevented his doing much; and on my assuming charge, in November 1853, hardly any arrangements had been effected or establishments formed, and the Sooba and his Karkoons were still conducting affairs pretty much as before.

The monsoon of 1853 was a failure, and not a drop of rain fell in the province subsequent to July; the rice, wheat, and gram, which are the principal crops, consequently failed. There was an insurrection in the Purguna of Dahode, and the mercenaries throughout the districts were assuming a threatening attitude. By the assistance of a small detachment from the Baroda Brigade, however, these disorders were soon cured; but it was not till the year was more than half over that the necessary establishments were organized, and the revenue in process of realization.

I found it early necessary to remove the whole of the late Sooba's establishment, including himself. The members of it were generally unfit to transact business in the Guzerathee language, or according to our system, and they were also identified with the feebleness and bad faith which had characterized the preceding administrations.

The late Sooba, on his first arrival here, had made a quinquennial settlement of these districts, which remains in force till the end of this year. The leases he gave were all on an ascending scale, and are therefore the most burdensome in the two years which have fallen to my lot to administer. The Sooba was guided only by the record of previous receipts, and by the information received from the hereditary district officers. The consequence is, therefore, that the rates are very unequal, and in many instances the Patels were compelled to accept the lease of their respective villages. In some cases, therefore, I have been obliged to allow the holders to throw them up; and as it was certain that at the end of the current year the whole settlement would have to be revised, it was necessary to take steps at once to acquire some trustworthy information of the capabilities of the villages, for which

purpose an establishment on an economical scale has been organized, which will furnish, by the end of this season, a tolerably accurate survey of all the Khalsa villages of the Godra, Kallole, and Hallole Purgunas, together with a topographical map.

POLICE.—In each of the Purgunas the charge of the police (under the general control of the Mamlutdar) has been assigned to a distinct officer, who, being relieved of all revenue business, is able to devote himself entirely to his own department. This officer reports directly to myself on all important occasions, and he has power to imprison for fifteen days. The Mamlutdars have authority to imprison for one month, and to impose fines not above Rs. 25. The Assistant Superintendent may imprison for six months, and can inflict fines not above Rs. 100, and inflict twelve stripes. All heavier cases are disposed of by the Superintendent himself.

It will not be surprising that, under the circumstances, the list of crime during the year of report should be a heavy one, and that serious offences should be numerous. It is hoped and believed that a change for the better has already taken place, and that the measures adopted for the security of the country will be shown in next year's returns to be efficient.

ADAWLUT.—The Adawlut charges sanctioned by the Durbar, provided for the appointment of a Moonsiff at Godra only; but while I was at Dahode (which is commercially a more important place than Godra) I was requested by the inhabitants to make some arrangement by which the necessity of their proceeding so far might be obviated. The Moonsiff who had been appointed by Major Fulljames having resigned his situation, an experimental arrangement was made without exceeding the amount sanctioned by the Durbar, by which a separate Court was opened at Dahode. The Mamlutdars have the power of settling suits under Rs. 100, and an appeal from their decisions lies first to the Moonsiff, then to the Assistant Superintendent, and finally to myself. In the case of the Moonsiff, an appeal lies first to the Assistant Superintendent and then to myself. The accompanying Statement (No. 4) will show the numbers of suits instituted, and how they have been disposed of.

REVENUE.—According to the estimate forwarded to Mr. Bushby by Major Malcolm, with his letter No. 444, of the 28th December 1852, the revenue for this year was calculated by the Durbar at Rs. 2,19,299. This did not include many items which were only collected to be at once paid away to Hukdars and others; nor did it include a number of items under the head of Khasgee Babtee, which seem to have formed the personal perquisite of the Sooba. It will now, of course, be proper to bring to account every item of collection, and then to account for the disposal of the same under the proper heads of expenditure. The gross revenue then, for Sumvut 1910, amounted to Rs. 2,35,654-3-5, of which Rs. 1,015-10-9 have been remitted, and some further

portion must also be yet foregone. Rs. 1,96,758-11-10 had been collected, and a balance remained to be realized of Rs. 37,879-12-10.

The late Sooba left an outstanding balance of Rs. 9,614-2-6, of which Rs. 7,128-1-0 had been collected, and Rs. 2,486-1-6 have yet to be recovered.

The arrears seem large, but the greater part of them has been since realized, and though the season of 1910 was unfavourable, and some part of them must be remitted, yet this deficiency will be more than supplied by the new items of revenue which now reach the Durbar for the first time (and particularly the Khasgee Babtee) amounting to Rs. 14,436-10-6.

EXPENDITURE.—The revenue of Sumvut 1910 (A. D. 1853-54), amounted to Rs. 2,34,638-8-8; the charges for the same period will be found detailed in Statement No. 2, under the following heads:—

1. Superintendent and Establishment	Rs.	6,832	3	10
2. Assistant ditto ditto		5,476	4	8
3. Judicial Establishment		1,060	11	1
4. District Establishments, including batta, dead stock, and contingencies		11,921	0	7
5. Seebundy and District Dāk		20,933	2	10
6. Durukdars		11,570	7	9
7. Hukdars		5,725	0	0
8. Temples and Wurshasun		9,711	6	3
9. Miscellaneous charges		2,882	11	4
10. Loans and Tukavee		8,419	14	0
11. Remitted to, or paid on behalf of the Durbar		78,428	6	6
12. Works of public utility		1,676	1	2
		<hr/>		
		Rs.	1,64,637	6 0

This would leave a surplus revenue for 1910 of Rs. 70,001-2-8.

The Durbar estimated that a surplus of Rs. 1,30,285 or thereabouts would be remitted to Gwalior out of the revenue for the year; and the above statement will show that considerably more will be available for that purpose. The sum of Rs. 1,64,637-6-0 covers every charge, and, with the exception of some not large remissions for the year 1910, the entire surplus will be at the disposal of the Durbar, besides the sum of Rs. 8,419-14-0 which has been advanced on loan to the Zumindars and Ryuts on good security.

The entire collections during Sumvut 1910 amount to Rs. 2,03,886-12-10, viz. Rs. 7,128-1-0 for previous arrears, and Rs. 1,96,758-11-10 for the current year; of this, Statement No. 2 will show Rs. 1,35,730-11-7 to have been expended, leaving a cash balance of Rs. 68,156-1-9, and an outstanding balance of Rs. 40,365-14-4 to be accounted for in my next report.

I have now the honour to detail the measures taken to relieve certain of the Zumdars from the presence of bodies of mercenaries whom they had taken into their employ during the late unsettled times, and to the leaders of which they were indebted. Assistance from the State is equitably due to these persons, as bad government was the primary cause of their being entangled with these mercenaries; but, I have been able, with but little direct pecuniary aid, and that given on loan bearing 6 per cent. interest and on good security, to get rid of a good many of these turbulent people.

The Thakoor of Soneepoor, a Talooka of about 40 villages, principally waste, to the south-east of Powaghud.—There were two small gangs of mercenaries fastened upon this Zumdardar, and it was with difficulty they were ejected without coercion. The leader of one party had a claim on the State of Rs. 4,393-8-0, and until this was liquidated, his salary and the pay of his men, amounting to Rs. 540 per annum, was a charge upon it. The leader of the other party claimed Rs. 5,107, and was entitled to annual wages of Rs. 516; together, therefore, the charge was Rs. 1,056 on an Estate, the entire revenue of which does not at present exceed Rs. 1,600 per annum, leaving hardly anything for the demands of Government and absolutely nothing for the support of the family. By advancing Rs. 3,160-7-6, I have got rid of the claim of the first Jumadar, and by taking four of the followers of the second Jumadar into the Police, I have induced him to waive his present demands and to wait till there is some surplus revenue. The Talooka is fertile and favourably situated, and with care will improve annually. In consideration of the loan abovementioned, and the youthfulness of the Thakoor, I have taken entire charge of the Estate.

The Thakoor of Kunjerree was indebted to three different leaders of mercenaries, whose claims amounted to Rs. 2,300, Rs. 2,592-3-6, and Rs. 3,011 respectively; the wages of the soldiery formed an annual charge on the Estate of Rs. 1,932. I have advanced from the treasury sufficient to enable him to discharge in full the two first claims, as well as Rs. 1,000 of the third, and he has made over a sufficient portion of his Estate to liquidate this loan in four years, with interest at 6 per cent. All the mercenary soldiers about him have therefore been discharged.

The Thakoor of Bhumria is a mere boy, without any male relatives, and is deeply involved in debt. One Jumadar had a claim upon him for Rs. 2,979-12-0, for which he was entitled to receive in wages Rs. 540 per annum, which, as in the case of Soneepoor, scarcely left anything for the demands of Government and absolutely nothing for the Thakoor's family. A sum of Rs. 1,142-4-0 has been advanced, on receiving which the Jumadar consented to receive the balance by instalments without interest. I have assumed the direct management of this Estate, which is close to Soneepoor and very much in the same condition (waste that is) but capable of much improvement.

The Thakoor of Mehlole is a man of extreme imbecility, heavily in debt, particularly to two leaders of mercenaries, who kept him almost a prisoner in his own house; to one he owed Rs. 5,859-3-0 and to the other Rs. 502-5-5, and he was obliged to pay them in wages Rs. 1,422 per annum. At his urgent request I took charge of his Estate, and have guaranteed the re-payment of Rs. 4,656-11-9, which were advanced for the payment of the mercenaries by one of the Thakoor's principal creditors. The relief which has been given to this Zumindar by the removal of these mercenaries, and by the substitution of simple 6 per cent. interest for the enormous charges of his overbearing Seebundy creditors, has been obtained without any loan from the treasury; and as his Estate under good management is valuable, the guarantee I have given is not likely to cause the least inconvenience.

The Zumindar of Tanda was arrested in the course of the disturbances which occurred in the beginning of last year in the Dahode Purgana. He had then in his service a body of mercenaries, to whom he was indebted for loans of money and arrears of pay to the extent of Rs. 9,691-3-6: he was also bound to pay these men Rs. 1,200 per annum. As I found he was quite unable to pay these men their arrears, and that they could not be got rid of otherwise without bloodshed, I consented to advance sufficient for the payment of the soldiers' arrears, leaving the money borrowed from their Jumadar to be repaid by annual instalments. On this account Rs. 3,025 were advanced from the treasury, bearing interest at 6 per cent., and the Zumindar has given security for the repayment of this loan in six annual instalments. The origin of this Zumindar's embarrassments was a fine of Rs. 1,500 levied from him several years ago by the then Mamlutdar of Dahode, without, as far as I have been able to ascertain, even the pretext of any offence committed. I had the honour to address Major Malcolm on this subject, on the 4th February and 18th March 1854, but as it seems that His Highness Sindia is unwilling to take cognizance of the circumstance, it only remains for me to make as favourable an arrangement for the Zumindar as possible of the Government demands upon him, that he may be able by degrees to liquidate the Jumadar's demands.

The only sums that have been advanced from the treasury during the year under review have been as follows:—

To the Thakoor of Kunjerree	..	..	Rs. 3,300
To the Thakoor of Soneepoor	..	..	„ 835
To the Zumindar of Tanda	..	..	„ 3,025

These items, together with Rs. 1,259-14-0 advanced to new settlers in the old Town of Champaneer, which is, I trust, gradually being recovered from the jungle that has grown over it, make up the sum of Rs. 8,419-14-0 which is set down in the expenditure as advanced on loan.

I have concluded during the year a careful investigation of the claims of Zumdars and Durukdars, religious and charitable endowments, and I beg to enclose seven statements of these in Murathee for the information of the Durbar. There are some claims which appear to me doubtful, and I should feel obliged, if, in transmitting them to the Durbar, you will draw attention to the notes attached thereto, and ascertain its wishes on each case.

My attention has been also directed to the customs and transit duties, which seem to require revision. As a preliminary step I farmed the whole to the same persons who also farm those of the Baria territory, which runs like a wedge through the Punchmahals, and by this means have been able to consolidate the whole. The farmers have also agreed to take up all the petty Nakas and compensate the owners, so that traders might pass through without constant molestation. I have also made arrangements for ascertaining the actual amount of the collections, so that I hope to be able, in the ensuing year, to introduce very extensive reductions, and thus relieve trade and industry from very harassing burdens, without a material sacrifice of revenue.

The sum of Rs. 1,676-1-2 has been expended on works of public utility, such as repairs and additions to public buildings, and clearing the roads of the thick jungle that overarched and impeded them. The details are given in the vernacular statements. Vernacular schools have been established in each of the Kusba towns; two vaccinators have been appointed; and other arrangements of a similar kind have been planned, which will be detailed in my report for A. D. 1854-55. On the whole, I can safely congratulate Sindia's Government on the measure of transferring the management of the Punchmahals to the British Government. There can be no doubt that there will be a gradual influx of population from other parts of Guzerat; the stream has already begun to flow, and two or three hundred families have already been established in different localities. Without attempting to press any increase of revenue, it is already evident that it will gradually improve, while it is not less certain that the cost of management will be diminished as security is established.

Extracts from a Report from Major R. Wallace, Political Agent in the Rewa Kanta and Superintendent of the Powaghur Punchmahals, dated 17th October, No. 92 of 1855.

REVENUE.—The revenue for Sumvut 1911, ending the 5th June 1855, amounts to Rs. 2,62,857-2-8, against Rs. 2,35,654-3-5 for the previous year. The increase arises partly from the increased assessment of Rs. 7,356-8-0 estimated in the statement forwarded by Major Malcolm to Mr. Bushby in his letter No. 444, of the 28th December 1852; partly to recovery of Tukavee and other loans made in the previous year to Ryuts and Zumdars, Rs. 4,188-6-10;

partly to increased fees arising from increase of business in the *Adawlut*, Rs. 928-14-10; partly to the proceeds of a new tax imposed in the last year of the late Sooba's management to cover the expenses of surveying and road-making, but which, owing to the unfavourable character of last season, I did not before think it proper to collect, but which has now produced Rs. 1,705-5-6; and partly from other sources.

At the close of Sumvut 1910 there was a balance of Rs. 40,365-14-4 to be recovered, which, added to the revenue for the current year, amounts to Rs. 3,03,223-1-0. Of this sum Rs. 472-0-11 has been remitted, and Rs. 2,45,817-1-4 has been realized, so that there still remains a balance to be collected of Rs. 61,912-9-7. There was a cash balance of Rs. 68,156-1-9 at the close of last year, which, added to the realizations of the present, make up a sum of Rs. 3,13,973-3-1, for which I have to account.

EXPENDITURE.—The charge for the year, including the unsettled claims of last year, amounts to Rs. 3,11,256-1-9, of which Rs. 2,73,178-2-11 have been paid, leaving yet due Rs. 38,077-14-10 as a set off against the above-mentioned recoverable balance. The principal heads of expenditure are as follow :—

1. Superintendent's Establishment.....	Rs.	8,197	4	6
2. Assistant Superintendent's ditto		5,697	8	4
3. Adawlut Establishment.....		1,719	7	1
4. District Establishments		18,918	7	4
5. Seebundy and Dâk		33,425	9	2
6. Durukdars.....		10,065	14	3
7. Huckdars		5,625	0	0
8. Wurshasun.....		6,182	14	2
9. Miscellaneous		11,660	0	9
10. Loans and Tukavee		11,343	15	4
11. Remitted or paid on account of Sindia's Durbar		1,56,304	11	6
12. Works of public utility.....		4,037	6	6
Total..		Rs.	2,73,178	2 11

Leaving a cash balance in hand of Rs. 40,795-0-2.

FIXED ESTABLISHMENTS.—In most of the fixed establishments there has been an increase. The salaries of the Moonsiff and Naib Moonsiff were in the first instance experimental, but the work has so much increased, as the fees show, and these two officers have given such satisfaction, that I have increased their salaries from Rs. 50 and 20 to Rs. 65 and 35 respectively. The increase of revenue business in the several Mahals has also necessitated some addition to the establishments, part of which, however, will be temporary; but the

principal additions to the charges are the Survey and Seebundy establishments ; the former is engaged in a very useful survey and measurement of village lands, the registers of which will be of great value.

LOANS AND TUKAVEE.—During the past two years Rs. 6,544-1-10 have been advanced (without interest) to the Ryuts, and Rs. 1,713-12-3 have been refunded. The loans to Zuminḍars (which, however, bear 9 per cent. interest) amount to Rs. 13,219-11-6, of which Rs. 3,264-14-7 have been repaid. The nature and necessity for these loans is described in my last annual report.

REVENUE REMITTED TO SINDIA.—According to the estimate submitted to Mr. Bushby by Major Malcolm, in his letter of 28th December 1852 above quoted, Sindia would expect a surplus of about Rs. 1,30,200 for Sumvut 1910, and Rs. 1,37,600 for 1911, or Rs. 2,67,800 for the two years. The actual sum paid has been Rs. 78,428-6-6 for 1910, and Rs. 1,56,304-11-6 for 1911, or Rs. 2,34,733-2-0 for the two years. Our account with Sindia, therefore, stands pretty nearly as follows :—

<i>Dr.</i>		<i>Cr.</i>	
Balanced due to Durbar.	Rs. 33,067 0 0	Cash in hand	Rs. 40,795 0 0
Balance to be paid to		Arrears to be collected ..	61,912 0 0
Establishments	38,077 0 0	Loans & Tukavee do	14,785 0 0
Total ..	71,144 0 0		
Balance in our favour . . .	46,348 0 0		
	<u>Rs. 1,17,492 0 0</u>		<u>Rs. 1,17,492 0 0</u>

PUBLIC WORKS.—Rs. 3,094-7-3 have been expended during the year of report in public works. As might have been expected, I found not only that such works as old wells, bowrees, and tanks had been allowed to fall into ruin, but that the public buildings necessary for the transaction of business, the small forts, (the old Fort of Powaghud especially) had been entirely neglected. The most urgent repairs have been made to the latter description of works, and I propose gradually to put the whole into proper order, building *de novo* what cannot be said to have existed up to this time, viz. proper district gaols for the reception of prisoners, with separate accommodation for females. With respect to Powaghud, it would, of course, be an unnecessary waste of money to attempt to keep in repair the extensive fortifications there. This place, however, as you may be aware, is visited from time to time by many pilgrims on account of the temple on the summit. It is needful to preserve order among these ; and for their protection, as well as for the credit of Sindia's Government, it is proper that the main entrances should be kept in a respectable condition, and that such buildings as are still capable of being turned to account should not be allowed to fall into decay, and thus much, I presume, will not be objected to, and thus much only has been undertaken.

Another class of works, are those from which profit may be expected, such as repairs to wells, bowrees, tanks, &c. As a general rule I have determined to contribute to such works only when the inhabitants of the village agreed to do something also. The sum of Rs. 718-9-0, besides labour, has been contributed by the villagers, in the past year, over and above what has been given by Government, and this principle is likely to be more largely acted on hereafter. For instance, the people of Kallole, who have always suffered from want of a good supply of water, have engaged to subscribe Rs. 2,500, to be added to a similar grant by Government, for the formation of a large tank near that town. In addition, however, to what appears in this year's accounts, there has also been expended Rs. 1,441-11-7, out of property bequeathed for the purpose by a widow at Mullo, in deepening and enlarging the tank there, from which a considerable surface of rice land is irrigated. This being a private fund, is not entered in the accounts.

CUSTOMS AND TRANSIT DUTIES.—The arrangement made last year with the persons who farmed the customs and transit duties, and alluded to in my last annual report, was of an experimental nature. No increase of revenue was expected, but it was made in the interests of commerce, with such precautions as seemed necessary to guard against any decided loss. By it the farmers were to be indemnified if there should be a deficit of more than Rs. 2,000, and in return, they were to give up the profits, minus their expenses, if they exceeded the ordinary receipts. As the contract has proved profitable, about Rs. 5,000 will be paid into the treasury by them immediately, which abundantly indemnifies us for the expenditure under this head of Rs. 40 per mensem to check the contractor's accounts; and the information gained of the working of the existing system of transit duties in the course of the year, has enabled me to put into execution the plan mentioned in my last report for simplifying and modifying the rates.

It has for very many years been the practice here to farm out the customs, &c. of each Purguna separately, and to separate persons; so that there has been a constant system of one farmer enticing traffic away from one line of road to another. Very great confusion was in consequence found to exist in the rates of one Purguna as compared with those of another, as well as between the ostensible rates and those actually levied; all which tended to restrict traffic and render it fluctuating and uncertain. Much was done last year to simplify matters by the promulgation of fixed rates, on payment of which on the frontier, traders might pass through the whole of the Punchmahal and Baria districts without being annoyed by petty demands at various places; but still much remained to do: for instance, the same goods when proceeding to Malwa or coming from Malwa, were charged different rates; goods proceeding by one route paid more than when

passing by another; some classes of carriers paid more than others; and certain persons held Purwanas, by means of which they virtually had a monopoly of the traffic on the Jhallode road, the ordinary rates being much in excess of what was charged to them. In the present year, all this has been amended, and comparatively simple rates have been substituted for the fluctuating and vexatious discrepancies of the old ones; and acting on the knowledge that the duties have produced Rs. 5,000 more than heretofore, in the present year I have reduced the rates on many articles (particularly in grain and salt, and altogether abolished certain petty exactions, which produced little revenue, and left open a wide door for extortion) to the estimated amount of Rs. 6,000. The result of this measure will be known next year, but I am sanguine it will not occasion a loss to the revenue of nearly that amount; and if, on the contrary, there should be no loss to speak of, I propose to abolish the duties on export of all agricultural produce, either by degrees, or, if the state of revenue should authorise it, at once.

The arrangement made last year for the collection of the customs and transit duties was to hand them over to the farmers of the duties of the State of Baria, who had also for many years been connected with those of the Punchmahals. These persons were to receive Rs. 3,500 for their expenses; they were to be responsible for any loss not exceeding Rs. 2,000; and they were to pay all the profits over Rs. 2,000 into the treasury. They were to collect the whole of the duties, including the Hucks of villagers and petty proprietors, and to repay them at an average struck on the previous ten years' receipts: this arrangement, as I have above stated, has resulted in a profit of upwards of Rs. 5,000 (the accounts not being quite finished, I am unable to state the exact amount).

The arrangement I have now made with them is this:—They have taken a farm of the Baria duties for three years, and for the next year they are to superintend the collection of the whole duties of the Punchmahals also, receiving Rs. 2,000 for their trouble. The accounts and records are, however, to be kept to the minutest particular by our own establishment, and, at the close of the year, the farmers are to receive half the profits that may accrue, over and above the net receipts of Government for the past year, viz. Rs. 30,161, deducting the expense of establishments and their own allowance of Rs. 2,000. I thus secure their knowledge and experience, and have a two-fold check on a branch of revenue which is peculiarly dependent on the exertions of the collectors, and in which peculation is more easy to be practised and more difficult of detection than any other.

I have retained in my own power the liberty of reducing or abolishing any duties at the close of this year, from which if the farmers dissent, they may retire from the business; and I have also engaged them to admit any

moderate reductions in the Baria duties which may be agreed on by the Raja, under my advice, in return for the assistance they will receive from our establishments in collecting these duties and keeping the necessary accounts. As a preliminary it has already been agreed to simplify the Baria duties by equalizing the rates on all the different roads, five in number, and in abolishing the distinction hitherto made between merchandize going to Malwa and that coming from it. Traders, therefore, may now, for the next three years, pay a fixed sum on either frontier, and then proceed through Baria and the Punchmahals in any direction they think proper, changing their route according to information they may receive of the state of markets in transitu.

Besides this, there has been suspended the tax hitherto levied in the Baria territory and the Punchmahals on empty carts and unladen bullocks, which must have been a very vexatious and obstructive one.

CIVIL JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION.—The Mamlutdars' Courts were only intended for the summary disposal of petty suits; and observing that the duration of these suits was becoming long, I issued an order that every case not brought to a close in thirty days should be transferred to the Moonsiffs' Courts. The number of suits instituted in Sumvut 1910 was 159, and in the year under review 568; the value of suits instituted in Sumvut 1910 was Rs. 8,301-12-0, and in Sumvut 1911 Rs. 24,332-2-5. The average duration of suits seems satisfactory, with reference to the last Returns which I have seen of the Civil Judicial administration of the Honorable Company's districts under the Bombay Presidency.

Extract from a Report from the Superintendent of the Powaghur Punchmahals, dated 31st December, No. 103 of 1855.

By a census taken during the month of May 1855, the population of the several districts of the Punchmahals appears as follows:—

Purgunas.						Villages.	Population.	Land Revenue.
Godra	..	..	..	..	..	248	48,542	37,783
Kallole	..	..	..	..	..	60	31,961	48,031
Hallole	..	..	..	..	..	85	15,245	14,835
Dahode	..	..	..	..	..	121	26,338	52,734
Jhallode	..	..	..	..	..	95	21,509	24,854
Total. . .						609	1,43,595	1,78,237

For this population there are the following indigenous schools :-

Godra	1	Kallole	1
Mehlole	1	Veijulpoor	1
Teemba	1	Mulloy	1
Kantdee	1	Rabode	1
Dahode	3	Dehlole	1
Jhallode	1	Juntral	1
Leemree	1	Aradra	1

The instruction in these schools is of the most elementary character, comprising nothing beyond reading, writing, and the rudiments of arithmetic; there are no class-books used, nor is any general information given.

To lay the foundation of a better system, three schools were established, as follows :—

8th April 1854 at Godra.

18th Feb. 1855 at Hallole.

20th July 1855 at Kallole.

Superintended by masters who had received their own education in British Government schools, and supplied with proper class-books. The school at Godra has 58 pupils in attendance; that at Hallole has 103 pupils in attendance; and that at Kallole 54. All these pupils pay a monthly fee of one anna for the petty expenses of the school, and they receive the same education as is imparted in the Government schools of the province of Guzerat.

The inhabitants of Kallole, Hallole, and Veijulpoor having agreed to pay half the expense of building school-houses in these towns, I have allotted similar amounts from the revenues, viz. Rs. 125½ for the Hallole, Rs. 136 for the Kallole, and Rs. 95 for the Veijulpoor school; and the salary of the master for the latter place will be charged to the revenues henceforward.

Two other schools are to be opened at Jhallode and Dahode, which will be reported hereafter, as well as an elementary English school at Godra, half the total expense of which will be borne by the inhabitants. I trust that in a short time, when they shall perceive the advantages of a better system of education, all these schools and others may be supported by an extra cess.

The introduction of Vaccination has, I trust, been successfully accomplished. Two vaccinators were appointed in October 1854, and they have vaccinated the following children since that time :—

Month.	Vaccinator Nubboolall.		Vaccinator Runchoré.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
November 1854	20	16	19	9	39	25
December „	163	100	40	19	203	119
January 1855	162	112	56	52	218	164
February „	123	100	45	32	168	132
March „	145	113	55	50	200	163
April „	12	18	14	8	26	26
May „	24	26	5	4	29	30
June „	34	26	23	17	57	43
July „	27	23	7	4	34	27
August „	40	23	20	20	60	43
September „	42	32	38	24	80	56
October „	38	47	50	34	88	81
November „	26	16	76	67	102	83
Total. . . .					1,304	992

The districts, however, are so extensive, and in some parts so unhealthy, that it has been found necessary to add two to the number of vaccinators, so as to provide against the possibility of interruption to the work by either of those previously appointed falling ill. As a large proportion of the population is of the Bheel tribe, there has been and still is much difficulty in getting them to allow their children to be vaccinated; but these prejudices will be overcome by patience and perseverance.

